

Leyland gets £50m loan from NEB to stay afloat

The National Enterprise Board is giving British Leyland a loan of £50m to ease a serious cash problem. The loan, effectively to pay wages and keep the company afloat, has been made from money earmarked for Leyland's capital investment programme. The decision has been described as a scandal by an Opposition spokesman and a major row seems likely.

Row likely on drain of investment funds

By Peter Hill
British Leyland is being given £50m cash injection to ease serious cash flow crisis. Effectively the money is needed to pay the wages and keep the company afloat.

The decision yesterday by the National Enterprise Board to provide the £50m loan follows approval by Mr Varley, secretary of State for Industry.

The loan is expected to provoke a major political row since the money is part of the £100m announced earlier this year by the NEB to provide support for the company's capital investment programme.

Mr Michael Grylls, MP for Surrey, NW and vice-chairman of the Conservative Industry Committee, described the decision as "a scandal". He said he was writing immediately to Mr Varley and would demand full statement as soon as Parliament reassembled.

"It is a scandal that money which has been approved by Parliament for capital investment is now being used to keep the company afloat and to pay wages. Parliament is entitled to a full explanation of this decision," he said.

Only last week Mr Leslie Murphy, chairman of the NEB, issued a warning that the company would not be bailed out if it failed to raise its share of the money required for a investment programme, namely the development of the M62.

But he did add that this could not be applied to difficulties resulting from an action among component companies.

It was the recent spate of strikes among component plants which the NEB has used as justification for the latter strike.

The 11-week strike by Lucas workers was resolved to start this month but it led to more than 18,000 workers of Ford, GKN, being laid off if British Leyland's position now very grave.

The NEB has stressed repeatedly that further money support the company's investment programme will be additional on the board being satisfied that progress on industrial relations reform was being maintained. But the company is still faced with the

Minister resigns over surrender to hijackers

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Sept 29

Bowing to the demands of Red Army terrorists, the Japanese Government decided today to hand over seven jailed radical prisoners, two common criminals and Sime (53.5m) in ransom money to five hijackers who have threatened to murder 148 passengers on board a Japanese DCS airliner at Dacca airport.

The decision was taken this morning after the Japanese Cabinet was informed that the terrorists would begin to kill the passengers starting with an American banker—if their demands were not met by a deadline set of 6 pm (GMT) today.

The Cabinet decided at a further emergency meeting tonight—four hours before the deadline in Dacca expired—that it would not be able to fly the nine prisoners from Tokyo to Bangladesh until tomorrow. At the earliest, the nine prisoners will leave Tokyo tomorrow at 4 am—10 hours after the Dacca deadline.

Mr Hajime Fukuda, the Minister of Justice, submitted his resignation tonight, accepting responsibility for "a situation where prisoners are being

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This Canadian landscape by Prince Andrew is among 50 works of art by past and present members of the Royal Family which will be on public show in the Curfew Tower at Windsor Castle from tomorrow until October 9.

Grunwick strikers seek to start new bout of mass picketing

By Robert Parker

The 13-month-old Grunwick dispute, in which there has been a lull for the past few weeks, came to life again yesterday.

The strike committee, in a decision that surprised many people, including union leaders, decided to resume daily mass picketing again from October 17.

The committee, yesterday sent out nearly 1,000 letters and telegrams asking trade unions throughout the country for full support.

The committee's decision, which was made without consultation with the Association

Professional, Clerical and Computer Staff (Apex), representing 91 striking companies.

A meeting of the TUC General Council on Wednesday

will be held. But it would be more of a celebration than a demonstration, and would be held probably for only one day.

Mr Roy Graitham, the general secretary of Apex, who was surprised by yesterday's picket decision, has so far been reluctant to ask other union leaders to black public services because such action is illegal. The Union of Post Office Workers has given a court undertaking not to interfere with mail to Grunwick.

Mr Graitham, who has arranged a week ago, will talk to the strike committee this morning. He has not favoured a renewal of mass picketing partly because it does not achieve the objective of beating Grunwick, and partly because it results in adverse public opinion.

During the two weeks of mass picketing in June, Mr Graitham was summoned before Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, to be told of the Government's concern, and as a result of that meeting, Mr Graitham telephoned Mr David McNeely, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, every morning thereafter to inform him of the position.

The strike committee decision is also a result of its fear that the official trade union movement has not done all it should to get Grunwick to accept the Scargill report, which said the dismissed workers should be reinstated.

The decision to resume picketing again was endorsed later by Brent Trades Council, which has been advising the Grunwick strikers. The south-east region of the TUC is

expected soon to issue a statement that there can be no question of letting the dispute peter out in defeat.

An important question is whether Apex will decide to back the mass picket which

would be held. But it would be more of a celebration than a demonstration, and would be held probably for only one day.

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If Apex, the TUC and the Government do not support the picketing, the strikers and pickets will find themselves far more isolated than they did before. But even if the TUC said publicly it was opposed to mass picketing, a sizable proportion of the general council would not agree and would probably show their feelings that "something ought to be done".

Although Mr George Ward, the Grunwick managing director, did not want to comment yesterday on the new picket threat, the company feels able to survive further pressure.

It has already withdrawn two weeks of picketing, and has arranged to deal with a blacking of public services. A large generator has been bought, plans have been made for winter supply (which would be difficult to cut off because residents in the area would also be affected) and the company says it can deal with incoming and outgoing post.

The busy season for Grunwick is past, however, and will not start again until the sun next year.

MP's missing mail

The Post Office has started an inquiry into the disappearance of post addressed to the home of Mr William Whitlock, Labour MP for Nottingham, North. A few of the letters were found in a garden a quarter of a mile away.

Tax reforms seen as lure for the Liberal voter

From Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Brighton

The Liberal assembly yesterday came a stage nearer to approving the plans of Mr John Pardoe, the party's economics spokesman, for abolishing income tax and transferring taxation from the worker to the employer by means of a payroll tax. A final report from the party's taxation committee will be ready in less than three months.

Introducing an interim report in his usual flamboyant style, Mr Pardoe stated that the present tax system in Britain was a mess and that the chief thing wrong was the high burden borne by income tax.

But perhaps the best comment on the radical proposals for the reform of the entire taxation and social security system came from a fellow MP, Mr Richard Wainwright.

Verdicts on the report varied from "appalling", "reactionary" and "bogus" to "a terrific interim statement".

But, whatever the views of delegates, the proposals were universally accepted as a vote-catcher.

The establishment of a cooperative bank to promote the setting up of new community enterprises was urged in a motion approved by the assembly.

Mr Ralph Bancroft (Harrow, Central), moving the motion, said the way industrial society was run needed radical overhaul.

The patching up of a system based on nineteenth-century principles was no longer acceptable.

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Diary, page 16

Russia launches space craft

Moscow, Sept 29.—The Soviet Union today launched Salyut 6, a new unmanned space station into orbit round the Earth in what could be a prelude to a manned mission marking the twentieth anniversary of its first Sputnik.

The Salyut programme, begun in 1971, has been the main focus of Soviet space exploration since the first Sputnik's launching on October 4 and the promulgation of a new constitution expected at the end of next week.

The Salyut craft are orbiting laboratories from which cosmonauts have carried out a

Survey finds old heads on younger shoulders

By Alan Hamilton

The young generation of today is less interesting than has been supposed, judging from a survey conducted by a London advertising agency. The 800 young people who took part revealed themselves as conservative in attitude, content with their lot, and outstandingly dull.

British youth is predominantly home-loving and loving, gets on well with its parents, has little truck with fringe policies, expects to get married, spends its money on ice cream, chips, alcohol and consumer durables, and believes that health, humour and honesty are more important than being beautiful, slim or rich.

The McCann-Erickson agency, which interviewed a representative national sample between the ages of 10 and 25, concludes that the results overturn widely held misconceptions that young people are fun-loving, unconcerned and discontented.

Miss Ann Burdus, the agency's vice-chairman, said in London yesterday that she felt her future was in good hands. One of her assistants observed: "Young people are more boring than we think".

Those interviewed were mostly satisfied with their education. The least content were older schoolgirls, who thought their schooling only fair or worse; schoolboys were much happier with their tuition, and most students in higher education thought it was good or excellent. The agency, which has conducted similar surveys in the Continent, found the British more content with their education than anyone else in Europe.

The cherished image of the young overthrowing the established political order is also demolished. Only 5 per cent of the sample said they would vote for a minority political party; the rest would either stick with the three main parties, or not vote at all, or had no ideas on the subject.

Old-fashioned attitudes predominated on many social questions. The young are apparently more tolerant of the unemployed, the majority thinking that those out of work could find a job if they really tried, and that in spite of one-tenth of those interviewed being themselves without work.

More than half thought that homelife should be brought back, and almost all were in favour of lighter penalties for terrorists and hijackers, of more restrictions on immigration, and of a reduction in aid to developing countries.

There were liberal views on some moral questions. Although more expensive to get married, well over half said that divorce was not only morally right, but that they could see themselves indulging in it in suitable circumstances. Almost three quarters thought that extramarital sex was right.

Attitudes on other moral questions were tougher: most thought it wrong to smoke marijuana, travel on buses without paying, or steal. Almost half said that it was wrong to smoke cigarettes and that they would not do so.

The moral fibre weakens a little when it comes to stealing from the Government, although only 17 per cent thought it wrong to avoid paying tax, well over a third thought they might do so at some stage.



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Move to stop neutron bomb defeated

The American House of Representatives defeated a move by opponents of the neutron bomb to exclude it from an Energy Development Bill. The vote, 291 to 109, came after an emotional debate during which opponents of the weapon argued that its deployment in Europe would make nuclear war more likely. The neutron bomb is designed to kill troops by radiation with

out the intense heat and explosive power of conventional nuclear weapons. The anti-neutron move took the form of an amendment proposed by Democrats which would have barred funds for it from the Bill, which provides for an unspecified amount of money for initial production of neutron artillery shells and warheads.

The move was reflected in the general council's decision to ask the union executives involved, such as the Union of Post Office Workers, to do all that they could to stop the weapon.

Mr Kamlesh Gandhi, chairman of the strike committee, said that even if the service unions started blacking before October 17, a mass picker

Warning by DPP over poem

The Director of Public Prosecutions gave a warning of possible prosecution if the blasphemous poem "The love that dares to speak its name" is published again. The DPP recently received a copy of a circular which called on radical publishers and others to reproduce the poem.

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£8,300 paid for bottle of wine

A bottle of Chateau Lafite, 1806 vintage, was sold at Christie's for £8,300, the highest price ever paid for wine. It went to an American buyer.

Page 2

Cricket actions: Tony Greig

dislosed that he had an agreement to join Mr Kerry Packer's organization in Australia at the end of his cricketing career.

Spain: Catalonia is to be granted home rule under a royal decree enacted by the Spanish Cabinet.

Share Commissions: The Office of Fair Trading may refer the fixed commissions charged by Stock Exchange brokers and jobbers to the Restrictive Practices Court.

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It is my ambition and determination that parliamentary control is restored and further that it is effective in the national interest, Mr du Cann said. It is now urgent that the case should be arrested.

The report, the penultimate for the 1976-77 session, covers education, the health service, social security and employment. It is critical of a five of the departments possible.

On social security, the report says £10.8m was overpaid in 5-6, compared with £4m in 9-70, when the committee looked at the subject. The ease was due mainly to action in the intervening years. Of the total £6m related supplementary benefits and £6m to national insurance benefits, the report says.

read of suspected fraud by men was responsible for payments of £2.6m, £2.9m attributed to misrakes by men, and £5.2m to other errors, including official error.

in 1976, just over 19,000 convictions had been com-

pared with convictions in 98 per cent of cases. The main issue was drawing benefit

in working.

He report adds: "Although overpayments in absolute

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on The Muppet Show (ATV tonight); John Percival on Northern Theatre Ballet; William Mann on Tousaint (Coliseum); Irving Wardle on Bubbling Brown Sugar (Royale Theatre); and others.

Leading articles: The US economy; Canadian autonomy.

Features, pages 16 and 18.

David Cross on America's human rights campaign; Roger Berthoud asks if Labour can learn to love the EEC; Peter Stratford; meets Dr Sheila Cassidy.

Arts, page 12.

David Robinson on new films in London; Carlo Maria Giulini talks to John Higgins; Michael Ratcliffe

on The Muppet Show (ATV tonight); John Percival on Northern Theatre Ballet; William Mann on Tousaint (Coliseum); Irving Wardle on Bubbling Brown Sugar (Royale Theatre); and others.

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HOME NEWS

MPs want the consequences of higher university tuition fees to be carefully monitored

By Sue Reid, of The Times
Higher Education
Supplement

A House of Commons committee has issued a warning to the Department of Education and Science that higher tuition fees may affect demand for university places and the normal process for the selection of candidates.

In a report published yesterday the Public Accounts Committee recommends that the DES and the University Grants Committee should carefully monitor the direct and indirect consequences of the increases as a guide to future policy on the level of fees.

It welcomes the proposed increases in tuition fees for overseas students from richer countries and urges the DES to

examine the case for increasing the number of "home-based" students as a matter of urgency.

The UGC was undertaking a review of the university financing system, and this should not only analyse the universities' costs, but also provide the basis for the DES to make an appraisal of whether the present standards of provision were the most appropriate to meet today's essential needs.

The committee recommends that the DES and the Treasury should examine the existing grant arrangements to see if a simplification could reduce administrative costs while preserving the equitable distribution of the total funds available to meet the needs of the universities and their students.

Committee of Public Accounts, ninth report (Stationery Office, £3.60).

Mr du Cann calls for more claims checks

Continued from page 1

amounts were large, they amounted to only 0.12 per cent (or £1 in £8) of total benefit.

Mr du Cann said that the prosecution figures were equivalent to 300 cases in every parliamentary constituency, but the amount involved was small compared with the overall levels of payment.

"I have no doubt that this whole subject is a matter of great public concern," he said. "People will be reassured by the figures we have produced, but there is obviously room for tightening up."

The report urges that maximum use should be made of computers to detect fraud, because the committee feels that there is not enough cross-checking with information available in the Department of Health and Social Security. It urges an intensive study of ways to secure adequate documentary evidence of unemployment now that the national insurance stamp card is no longer used.

"We find it difficult to accept that the present checks, covering the area in which it is common ground that the largest number of overpayments of benefit are discovered, are as effective as the old," the report says.

The committee was concerned that about half the overpayments were due to official error, partly because of the system's complexity. It says the long-term solution should be to avoid unnecessary complexity; meanwhile every effort should be made to simplify arrangements.

The overpayment rate shown in the report is almost exactly the same as when the committee last studied the matter, although in the intervening six years many more people have claimed and many new benefits have been introduced. The Supplementary Benefits Commission has shown that errors by officials produce as many underpayments as overpayments.

Mr du Cann said he assumed the processes had been tightened up and the rate of overpayments should have been falling. Any waste, particularly in a time of financial stringency bearing heavily on most people, was a matter of public concern.

The report expressed "outrage" that in the building of the Liverpool Teaching Hospital expenditure of about £11m had become necessary to make it safe for occupation.

The committee accepted that the standard of fire precautions had improved greatly, but said the defects included inadequate or badly sited escapes.

Mixed ward complaint is upheld

By Our Health Services Correspondent

Fourteen out of 33 complaints investigated by Sir Idris Pugh, the Health Service Commissioner, between April and July, were found to be bona fide, wrong as here, the reasons should be examined.

The decision to build the hospital was taken in 1959. In

1975 the estimated cost of phases two and three was £41.8m, including £1.5m for improved fire precautions. It was known that the cost of fire by current standards would be far higher. As a result of price increase between September, 1975, and September, 1976, the estimated cost of completion, excluding fees and equipment, rose to £54.2m.

The department then considered whether to complete the project in full or in part or to abandon it. It was decided that the balance of advantage lay in completion.

Emergency payments: Commenting on a case in which a radiographer on a salary of £2,600 had received £3,691 in emergency duty payments in 1975-76, the committee said it appreciated the environment in which much emergency work was carried out, but none could not be countenanced. It trusted that improved administration and supervision would go a long way to eliminating abuses.

The report records that for each emergency duty period a technician received an allowance of between 75p and £2.45 and more if he had to answer a call, however short. One technician had received £564 for a month's emergency duty.

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Sir Idris says that although it was proper for the authorities to provide mixed-sex accommodation, he was not satisfied that adequate provision was made in the particular hospital for the minority who found the arrangement distasteful. Every patient should be given the opportunity, before arriving, to discuss arrangements and to make an informed choice. He invited the authority to find ways of putting that into effect.

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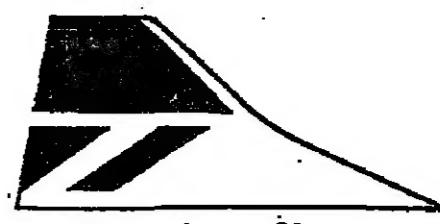
ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

We'll take
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No. 23

British airways ANNOUNCE

Friday, September 30, 1977



Fly the flag.

Eleven direct business routes into North America

GET READY FOR EXPORT BOOM!

BRITISH AIRWAYS has played a major role in Britain's march back towards prosperity and the achievement of a record £316 million surplus in the August trade figures.

It has flown out the exporters and flown in buyers and free-spending tourists. And every day British Airways helicopters are helping to speed up the work in the North Sea oilfields.

Now the airline is poised to help exporters attack North America where Britain still had a trade deficit in August.

Prospects for trade are looking brighter and British Airways is ready to make the most of the expected upsurge in demand for flights across the North Atlantic this winter.

The airline is offering frequent services to 11 destinations in North America, with daily flights to the key cities of New York, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, Washington, Miami and Los Angeles, most by wide-bodied aircraft.

From April, British Airways plans to introduce a daily service with Boeing 747 jumbos to San Francisco - new right obtained under the recently-concluded Bermuda agreement between the government of Britain and the USA.

Special

According to economic forecasts, the biggest business boom is going to take place in the south and west of the United States.

In this area, British Airways is well placed to serve business travellers through its special interlining arrangements with US airlines.

To the oil industry centre of Houston, for instance, business travellers can fly on British Airways' non-stop daily service to Miami, picking up a connecting Continental Airlines flight. Or they can go by the supersonic Concorde to Washington, transferring there to a linking Eastern Airlines flight.

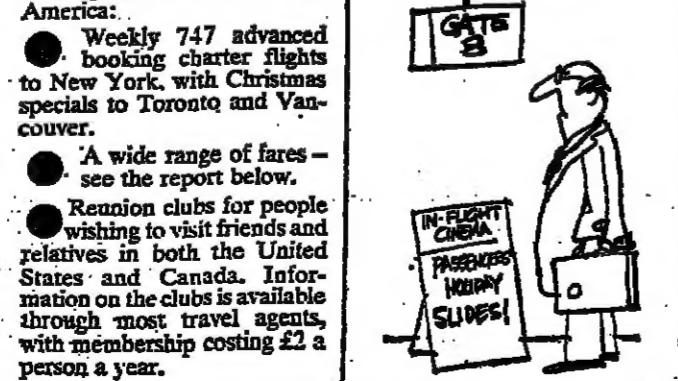
British Airways estimates that this supersonic service, even with the change of aircraft, is the fastest way between London and Houston, cutting two-and-a-half hours off the non-stop subsonic time.

Centres

Through their arrangements with other major US and Canadian airlines, British business travellers can have easy journeys this winter through to such North American centres as New Orleans, Tampa, Dallas/Forth Worth, San Francisco, Atlanta, Orlando, Minneapolis, Denver, Tulsa, San Diego, St Louis, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Vancouver, Calgary and Quebec.

British Airways has stepped up the frequency of its Concorde flights to Washington to six each week - and the service will become daily from October 1. Incidentally, the Concorde service to Bahrain is being stepped up to two a week, with a new Friday flight joining the existing Wednesday service on October 7.

British Airways also offers these special features to North America:



Fares are down to New York

Announce Reporter

NEW FARES have been introduced by British Airways on the London-New York route, and there is now a choice to please everyone.

The two new fares are:

STANDBY FARE: This costs £24 one way to New York.

BUDGET FARE: This will cost £69 from London to New York and £160 (£92) from New York to London. Full payment must be made and open tickets issued at least 21 days before the first day of the week in which the passenger wishes to travel.

The passenger will then be given a confirmed flight at least seven days before departure.

If a passenger cancels there will be a non-refundable charge of £30 a ticket.

These tickets can be bought from Travel Agents or British Airways Travel Shops.

Advance booking charter

THE fastest flights between London and Singapore on five days each week are operated by British Airways, which has a daily service between the two cities.

Its wide-bodied Boeing 747 jumbos leave Heathrow in the late afternoon or evening each day of the week, and on three days make only one stop on the route. On the remaining days they stop only twice.

Fastest flight time is 14 hours and 40 minutes.

British Airways also has a daily 747 service between London and Hong Kong - another important business route.

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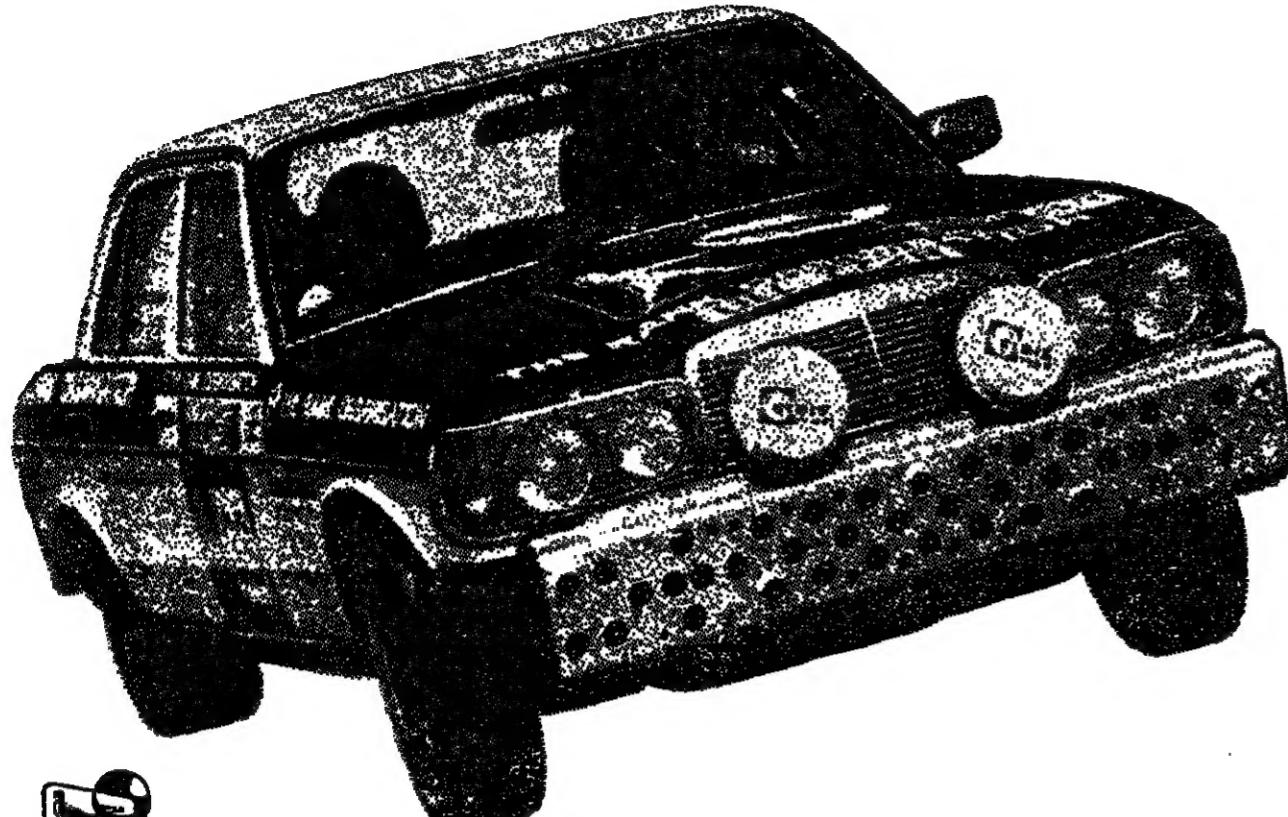
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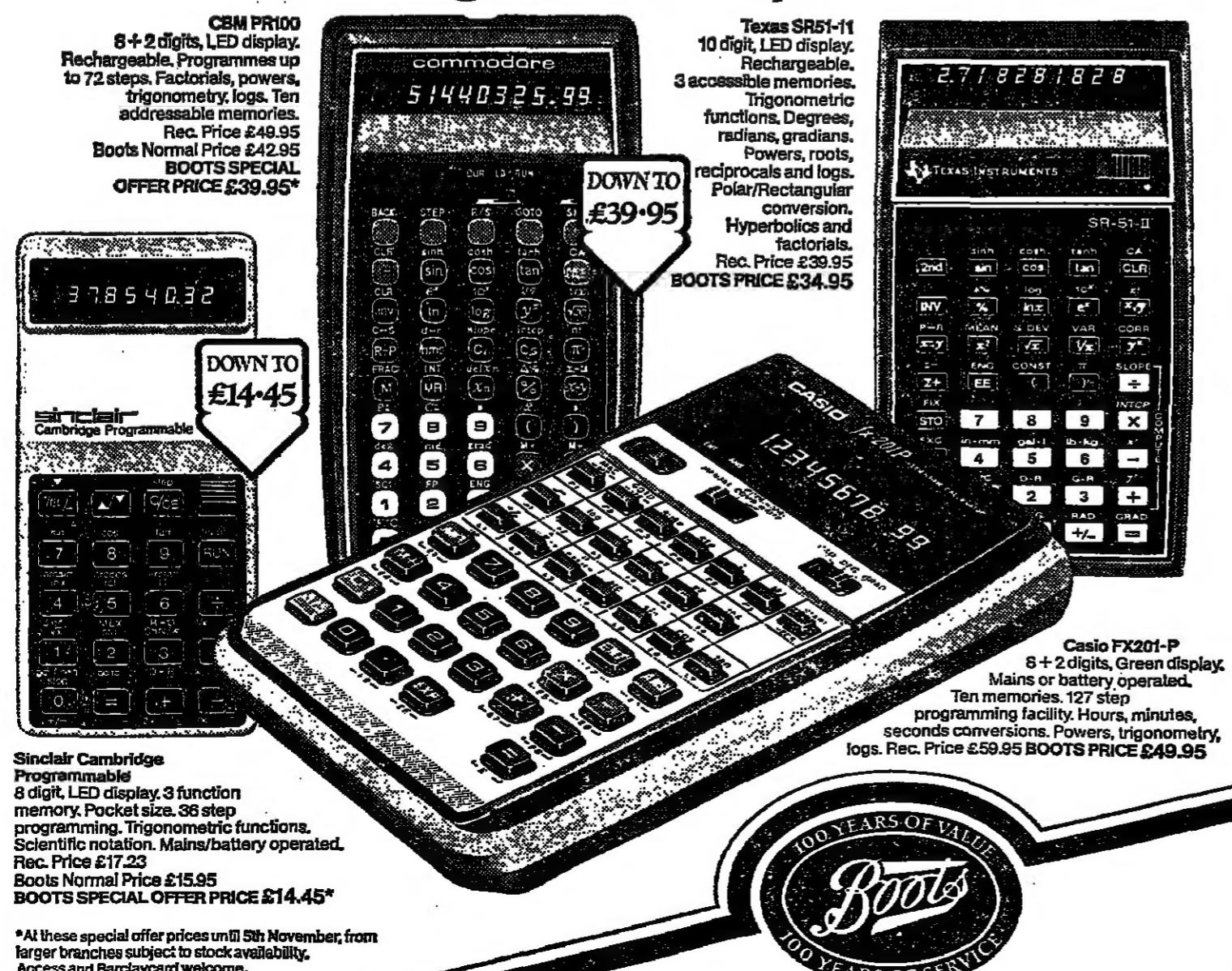
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HOME NEWS

Prosecution warning by DPP on poem

The Director of Public Prosecutions gave a warning yesterday of possible prosecution if the poem "The lover that dares to speak its name", by Professor James Kirkup, is published again.

The poem, about a Roman centurion's homosexual love for Christ at the Crucifixion, appeared in the homosexuals' newspaper *Gay News*, and led to Mr Denis Lemon, its editor, and the paper being found guilty by a jury at the Central Criminal Court of blasphemous libel.

Mr Lemon was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, suspended for 18 months, and fined £500. An appeal against sentence is pending.

The possible prosecution was brought by Mrs Mary Whitehouse, of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, and recently she sent to the DPP a copy of a circular which called on radical publishers and others to reproduce the poem.

Mr Anthony Hetherington, the DPP, told Mrs Whitehouse's lawyers that he had no evidence that any publisher had acted on the circular, and he did not at present intend to take action on it.

He added: "Should further publication of the poem in question be brought to my attention, I shall have seriously to consider the question of bringing proceedings." He hoped, however, that pending the result of the appeal all concerned would refrain from any action that would make that step unnecessary.

The DPP and Mr Samuel Silkin, the Attorney General, had agreed that after the conviction at the Central Criminal Court and subject to appeal, publication of the poem in the manner envisaged by the circular would be a common-law offence. If sent through the post it would contravene section 2 of the Post Office Act, 1953.

Last year 804 officers left in the first eight months, whereas during the same period this year



Vanishing Britain: Mr Alan Bristow, who was criticised on Wednesday for his handling of a dispute between his company and the British Air Line Pilots Association, is in a different argument with Waverley District Council over a house he owns in Surrey (above) is listed grade 2 starred. It was originally Elizabethan, although it was extensively enlarged and altered in the early nineteenth century. It was built by Sir George More, Sir Thomas More's cousin, and was once owned by the father of John Evelyn, the diarist.

It has been empty for several years and is said to be deteriorating badly. Mr Bristow applied for consent to demolish it. His application was refused and the council authorized its officers to do emergency repairs.

Mr Bristow, who has appealed against the council's refusal, describes it as "a Victorian monstrosity", and says he wants a more modest home.

"I have suggested a meeting with the council at which common sense might prevail, but, although I have invited them twice, they have declined to come," he said.

London police 4,329 officers short

From Peter Evans

Torquay

The shortage of 4,329 officers in the Metropolitan Police is as great as the total establishment laid down to police the whole of Merseyside.

That is stated in evidence being collected by the Police Superintendents' Association for the Home Secretary. The facts were given to the association's annual conference at Torquay this week by Chief Superintendent K. Rivers.

The Metropolitan Police had lost enough men in the past eight weeks to cover a division in Merseyside. Since August 1, 356 policemen had left, of whom 223 resigned voluntarily or transferred to another force.

Last year 804 officers left in the first eight months, whereas during the same period this year

the loss increased by 61 per cent.

Figures from the Police Federation, which represents rank up to chief inspector, also show that at the end of June police forces in England and Wales were 9,013 officers short of authorized strength.

The strength of the Metropolitan Police was now 16.2 per cent below establishment. Mr Rivers added: In 1920 the known crime rate in London was 17,433. "Today we have just 753 men more to deal with a crime rate which has increased by 2,610 per cent over the same period and which will, if the rate of increase for the first six months of this year continues to be maintained, comfortably pass the half-million mark."

The Metropolitan Police defi-

cency of 4,329, he continued, was now greater than that of the rest of the forces in England and Wales put together. "The money offered for the job is not considered adequate."

London, receiving rank allowances for total gross pay of £65,46 during his first year of service. If he left he could be employed by the force as a civilian, such as a vehicle removal officer, with starting pay of £67.98.

Whitelaw pledge: Mr Whitelaw, the shadow Home Secretary, said in Newcastle upon Tyne yesterday that if the police were still dissatisfied over pay when the Conservatives were returned to power, the Tories would be prepared to set up a commission to look at the position.

Number of farms declines by a fiftieth each year

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

The number of farms in the United Kingdom is falling fast as land is lost to urban development and redistributed into large holdings. The first detailed survey of farm sizes since 1968 shows that between that year and 1975 the number fell by about a fiftieth each year.

The survey gives the first data about farm structure since the Government announced its inquiry a fortnight ago under Lord Worthfield, into the pattern of ownership.

The committee was estab-

worried about difficulties faced by landless young farmers and by financial institutions and foreign buyers.

In 1969 a tenth of farms each provided employment for at least four men and produced 47 per cent of output. In 1975 such farms accounted for 15 per cent of the national total of holdings and provided 56 per cent of output. Concentration is greatest in England and Wales which have three-quarters of the farms. In 1975 2 per cent of English and Welsh farms together produced 21 per cent of total output.

The survey was conducted by the Changing Structure of Agriculture, (Stationery Office, £1.50).

Constabulary chief's gloom picture of manpower loss

From Ronald Faux

Edinburgh

Crime and disorder continued to increase in Scotland last year while the strength of the police force decreased. Mr David Gray, Chief Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland, said in his annual report published yesterday.

He said it was by far the gloomiest report he had made and admitted that the police service had lost the attraction it once had for many young men. Of an authorized establishment of 13,163 in Scotland last year, there were 346 vacancies. The loss of 218 officers during probation and 228 trained officers who had retired early,

emphasized the serious position he said.

The overall crime level last year rose 14 per cent to 264,615. Less serious offences fell slightly but that was a sign of inadequate police patrols. Detection largely depended on a police presence on the streets.

While the Government had always been willing to match the police grant any money spent on overtime, because of the economic position the police authorities had reduced overtime.

Mr Gray said that members of the federated ranks (inspectors and below) were emphatic that poor pay was at the root of the ill that beset the service.

Call for fund to aid not-so-poor litigant

By Our Legal Correspondent

An independent fund should be set up to pay legal services for people not poor enough to qualify for legal aid, but lacking the means to finance litigation. Justice, the all-party lawyers' body, proposes in a report published today.

The report, based on Justice's evidence to the Royal Commission on Legal Services, suggests that after its initial funding by means of a single grant from the Contingency Legal Aid Fund, it would be funded by its percentage share of damages awarded to successful litigants.

The proposed fund would have the power to reject applications with no reasonable prospect of success, but would exercise it sparingly and only in obvious cases. The applicant would be able to choose his own counsel and solicitors.

Justice feels that the proposal, if adopted, could lead to a substantial improvement in the provision of legal services in England for those who need them most and can afford them least.

The report also proposes the setting up of a "rescue service" for what it calls the "casualty of law", people who had exhausted a wide range of legal services but remained, justifiably or not, with

an acute sense that they had not been denied justice.

Justice suggests that a centralised bureau, under the auspices of the Law Society, should be set up. It would be staffed by qualified lawyers and funded by the solicitors' profession, the Bar and the state in equal shares.

It accepts that such a service would attract some unusual cases involving people with fanciful grievances, but nevertheless feels that this would be a reasonable price to pay for being able to help deserving cases.

Lawyers and the Legal System, Justice, 2 Clement's Inn, Strand, London, WC2; £1.50.

Chief officers support firemen's claim

Firemen who are demanding a 30 per cent pay increase were given support yesterday for a "proper assessment" of their wages from the Chief and Assistant Chief Fire Officers' Association.

The association's council said it was extremely concerned that the efficiency of the fire service would be eroded if it was not seen to be as attractive in pay and conditions as other local authority services.

The nation state

Redley Bull discusses the future of the nation state; Maurice Peston reflects on the changing fortunes of the *New Statesman*; and Clive Cookson reports on a new GMC survey of medical education in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* today.

Law Commission urges new offence of entrapment

By Our Legal Correspondent

Consideration should be given to making it a crime to incite someone to commit an offence with the object of trapping him and having him prosecuted, the Law Commission suggests in a report published yesterday.

The report also proposes a new definition of the offence of distress, to be avoidable when the crime is committed by the offender under threat of harm to himself or another.

The Law Commission says that the defence should be "essential only where the defendant is clearly or seriously a personal irritant (whether mental or physical); that the threat will be carried out immediately or before protection can be sought; and that there was no other way of preventing the harm threatened.

Duress should be available as a defence to all offences, including murder, the commission recommends.

The Law Commission, Report No. 52, *Defences of General Application* (Stationery Office, £1.50).

Licences suggested for file compilers

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Correspondent

The Government should differentiate between "private" and "public" in its planned legislation on personal information held on computer files, according to the British Computer Society, the Computing Services Association and the Data Processing Management Association.

In a joint submission to the Government's Data Protection Committee, they recommend that an independent licensing authority should be set up to control privacy and security alike.

Privacy would be the responsibility of the user, of the information, the organization or individual on whose behalf pro-

cessing work is carried out. Security would be the responsibility of the agency or operator whose computers were used to do the processing.

Thus the independent authority would grant licences to users holding specific types of personal data and certificates of security to computer agencies permitting work up to stated levels of sensitivity.

The agency must be able to provide security appropriate to the sensitivity of the data, but the three bodies say: "There is no need whatever for the agency to be aware of the uses to which the data will be put."

In a joint submission to the Government's White Paper on computers and privacy two approaches were suggested: a licensing authority and an Ombudsman. The public will find a licensing authority the more reassuring of the two, the three organizations say.

Control of the specific use of personal data, as recommended, will provide intrinsic protection against unauthorized handling. It will provide protection regardless of where the work is done and is enforceable.

Any attempt to control data files would be cumbersome and difficult because that would lead to evasion.

This is the first occasion when three organizations have come together to express a wide data protection. The Data Protection Committee is expected to report early next year.

LIBERAL PARTY ASSEMBLY/BRIGHTON

'Menace to democracy' of a minority in NUJ

The existence of the closed shop in various newspaper houses had begun to lead to the danger of action taken on industrial grounds had resulted in censorship. Lord Wigoder, Liberal Chief Whip in the House of Lords, said: "During a debate on industrial democracy.

The reality was that deeply embedded in the industrial relations structure was the concept of the post-entry closed shop. He doubted if it would be wise or sensible to dismantle what was so much part of society.

The one industry where the safeguards were inadequate was the newspaper industry. "We have seen it in the last day or two when two political correspondents have been denied by the Labour Party the right to report their conference next week because they were involved in an industrial dispute.

"We have seen growing up inside the National Union of Journalists a dangerous threat from a small body of people, international socialists, who are just as much of a menace to our democracy and way of life as the National Front."

There must be complete editorial freedom, both from proprietorship and from unions. There must be the right of individual journalists to join the NUJ or the Institute of Journalists, or neither if that was what he preferred. There must be the right of outside journalists to get views freely expressed in the press and a strong press charter effectively policed.

Lord Wigoder's comments came while the assembly was deciding its attitude to the closed shop in industry. After a complicated voting procedure, 352 delegates voted in favour of a proposal to enforce 100 per cent union membership as being contrary to Liberal principles. In another vote 234 delegates voted for 100 per cent union membership agreements towards there were adequate rewards for individuals. The opposition to the proposed 100 per cent membership was then incorporated in the resolution finally adopted by the assembly.

Mr Ian Stewart (North-west Surrey) had some distinguished company. None could vote against it if they were lawyers, doctors, dentists, engineers, teachers, Equity of the seamen's union, or even of the Liberal Candidates' Association, all of which had a closed shop. He was a member of a post-entry closed shop and members were persuaded to join it. Paul Ashdown (Newport) was strongly opposed to the closed shop. It was bad in principle; they would never build a liberal society if they compromised on principle.

Later in the debate a proposal in the report of the conference's commission on industrial democracy to give employees 51 per cent voting rights in board elections was rejected by 267 votes to 238.

Conference notebook

Party principles survive the temptation of 'realities'

Principles will out. In spite of a swing from a Liberal AUEW, the closed shop stand that the party would gain approval of the resolution. The majority preferred to vote to oppose the closed shop.

There were also warnings to heed political realities and implications of the Liberal-Labour pact. In this, the Liberal heart carried the load. And party principles merged intact. Mr John Dancer, shop steward, who is also assistant general secretary of the Association of Liberal Trade Unionists, dangled the spectre that the party might steal the union vote away from the Labour-Labour pact. Curiously, nobody bothered (or dared) to suggest that it might be precisely because Liberals had to oppose a closed shop that they might benefit from the subsequent count proved.

The closed shop decision, one episode in the industrial democracy debate, went quickly by, and was given confused attention. For example, the vote was not clear. The show of hands reflected it looked impressive, yet when a count was taken only

Pardoe plan to cut income tax to 20% by 1980

Proposals for a "realistic and exciting reform" of the taxation system were put forward at the Liberal Party assembly at Brighton yesterday. Mr John Pardoe, the party's spokesman on Treasury affairs, said the system proposed would enable the British people to take full advantage of the opportunities before them.

The main recommendations in a report of the party's taxation committee, chaired by Mr Pardoe, included:

• A substantial but phased reduction in income tax on wages, expenditure and wealth, so that by 1980 the standard rate of tax on earned income would be 20 per cent and the highest rate on earned income, 30 per cent.

• The replacement of the whole tax system by a self-assessed system of local government finance, with central government paying for those services it required local authorities to provide. Smaller local authorities raising revenue by whatever taxes they chose and secondary authorities raising revenue by site-value rating.

• A self-assessed wealth tax on wealth above £50,000, and abolition of investment income surcharge and stamp duty.

• Replacement of capital transfer tax on the person who makes the transfer by an accession tax on the person who receives the transfer.

• Indexation of the whole tax system and self-assessment for income tax.

Although some speakers in the debate expressed reservations on the report, the assembly voted overwhelmingly to take note of it.

Mr Pardoe said the chief fault of the tax system was the high burden borne by income tax. It was an easy tax for politicians because it became the tax of the poor. It was easy to bypass parliament into control of taxation. It was ludicrous that those who were officially classed as too poor to provide for themselves without state benefits were nevertheless deemed rich enough to pay income tax.

"We have to sweep away this

Reports by Philip Webster, Derek Barnett and Colin Ivor, members of our Parliamentary Staff

monies, and at both ends of the income scale. The Tories are fond of telling us how much they will do for the top taxpayer but they have no solution for the poverty trap. Liberals alone have the solution for both."

• The assembly not to be timid about the wealth tax proposal? "Our other proposed tax reforms will give a huge impetus to the creation and accumulation of private wealth, but that wealth must be used for the benefit of society as a whole. It would be intolerable to permit a tax system which encouraged people not to produce their wealth to its most productive."

Nothing would do more to make local government come alive and be exciting again to able men and women than the proposal for a new system of local government finance. Local elections would be held on a regular basis, and elected governments would be able to bypass parliament into control of taxation. Some candidates for instance, would campaign for local income tax, others for a local sales tax. Mr Paul Seddon (London) said the proposed payroll tax was another form of income tax and would be a disincentive for companies to employ low paid workers.

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"We have to sweep away this

Mr Maurice Palmer (Brentwood) hoped that the committee's final report would pay particular regard to the effects of payroll tax on business and prices. VAT should be abolished but a payroll tax would drive the self-employed into the ground.

Mr Paul Needham (Newcastle Central) said the report was appalling. It was opposed to Liberal policy in favour of redistribution of wealth. Workers should have more incentive. He wanted a completely tax-free wage up to about one and a half times the average industrial wage, with extra allowances for large families, and a high single rate of 70 or 80 per cent on all income above that level.

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"We have to sweep away this

HOME NEWS

Unions campaign for £2,000m in autumn Budget to restore cuts made in public spending

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

Union pressure on Mr Healey, the Chancellor, to inject £2,000m more into public spending is being intensified in the run-up to a possible autumn Budget.

Ten public service unions opened a new campaign yesterday for the restoration of cuts made in recent years. There will be a week of action, starting on November 21, to include a lobby of Parliament and a rally in London on November 23.

The campaign is being closely linked to the need to reduce unemployment, on the argument that an increase in public spending would revive activity in the private and public sectors.

Mr Bernard Dix, assistant general secretary of the blue-collar National Union of Public Employees, said the Government would stand or fall on what it did about unemployment.

It had been said that a payroll tax would create unemployment and create more jobs to satisfy demand. The proposals have Liberals the best weapon in their armoury to go out to the doorsteps and recruit the mass general election.

"Quite simply, it is not on,"

he said. "Public servants also want collective bargaining. We are playing one of the early hands and we are playing it to win."

Mr Dix said: "If Mr Healey cancels his recent 10p increase in the price of school meals and restores the subsidies he has removed from butter, cheese, milk, bread and tea, it will cut the rate of inflation overnight."

"At the same time he will put an extra £15m a week spending power straight into the place where it is most needed—the purses of Britain's hard-up housewives."

The unions involved in the campaign are the National and Local Government Officers Association (Nalgo), the Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cose), the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA), the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education (NATFHE), the National Union of Students (NUS), the National Union of Teachers (NUT), the Society of Civil and Public Servants (SCPS), the National Association of Probation Officers (Napo), and the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS).

Scargill hope of burial for social contract

By Our Labour Editor
Mr Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' leader, hopes to be one of the undertakers of the social contract. In an article in *Personnel Management*, he says: "The tragedy since 1974 has been the failure of trade unions to press wage claims because we had a Labour government in power—even though they knew that failure to do so would result in a full in living standards."

"It is not that supplementary benefits are too high, but that wages, particularly in local government, are too low." Anything below a substantial increase would be unreasonable and unacceptable, Mr Scargill said.

The union, together with the Transport and General Workers' Union and the General and Municipal Workers' Union who have among them one million manual workers in local government, are due to make their pay settlement in November, and their determination to go above the guidelines will provide a severe test for local government in negotiations.

Mr Tony Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, refused to be drawn on the issue when he addressed the final session of the conference. He said pay settlements must be based on the national earnings increase was no more than 10 per cent. The Government regarded the public sector as crucial to the success of the pay policy. But he appreciated they could not regard it in isolation.

"The fact that the English are not clamouring for a national parliament," she said, "is because most of us English think that we have got one already, since there has been a Parliament functioning in England for over 700 years."

"Anyone who denies that England is a nation or who seeks to deprive the English of their Parliament must go explain away over 1,000 years of history." It was the English Parliament that had challenged the Crown under Oliver Cromwell and established democracy in the United Kingdom. It was that Parliament that restored the monarchy to Elizabeth I, prepared to adjust their position in the hope the tide would turn.

Mr Gernot Howells (MP, Cardigan) said it was important that when devolution measures came before Parliament during the next session the Liberal Party supported them. Devolution as it stood at present was far from perfect, but if the measure was thrown out the chance of any kind of devolution this decade and probably the next would have gone. To vote against devolution now for whatever reason would be seen as a vote against the principle of devolution.

Mr Eric Robinson (Ludlow, Central) said Liberals must do what they could to preserve the United Kingdom, but England must be free to devolve power to its regions in the way that was most appropriate. The movement had the great good fortune to be barely conscious of political nationalism. "But even the English might not take kindly to being reduced to the status of Middlesex, with a postal address, and a cricket team but with little else."

Mr Tony Greaves (Nelson and Colne) unsuccessfully moved the amendment calling for the early and simultaneous establishment of assemblies in Scotland, Wales and the regions. He said the world would not notice if Scotland got devolution of the kind now proposed, and in the long term of a better kind, they would degenerate into racists or the worst sort.

Mr Terry Thomas (Pontypridd) opposed the motion. In Scotland and Wales he had seen a movement that could lead to destructive forces being unleashed if something was not done fairly soon to tackle some of the difficulties.

Mr Terry Grieve (Scottish Liberal Party) opposing the amendment, said the Labour and Tory parties

had not been transformed by any blinding light on the road to Damascus. They were concerned more with the rising tide of discontent with Westminster.

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by Fred Emery

ADVERTISEMENT

The Double Standards Game**WHY IS THE WEST LOOKING THE OTHER WAY?**

While the Russians have been wheeling and dealing, supplying arms to both sides and allowing the slaughter of thousands of Black people in the Horn of Africa (Somalia-Ethiopia), the West has been strangely silent.

Yet its vital interests are in peril from Soviet naval and air bases in the area which threaten ocean-going tanker access to the Middle East oilfields.

At the southern end of Africa, however, where the warring factions in Rhodesia pose no such threat to the West, the United States and Britain have a lot to say... and are even talking of oil sanctions.

Such are the incomprehensible double standards of President Carter and his Western Allies.

**CLUB OF TEN**

Kent House, 87 Regent Street, London W1R 7HF

Expect a rough time from Tories', Mr Steel says

George Clark
Political Correspondent

As the assembly settled down to routine business after the decision to endorse the pact with Labour, Mr Steel, the party leader, was under no illusions that the Conservatives had the upper hand in the negotiations for the party.

He warned a luncheon meeting of about 160 prospective Liberal

delegates that "a very rough time" lay ahead if the Conservatives got their way.

Mr Steel said: "I want you to develop more self-confidence and go out campaigning on the basis that the Liberals have deterred the Labour Government from attacking the trade unions."

He added: "I want you to be dislodged from the closed shop by the post-entry closed shop."

Mr Steel had invited Mr Cyril Smith, Liberal MP for Rochdale, the chief opponent of the pact, to meet him at his hotel yesterday morning.

Mr Smith had resigned as the party's spokesman on employment. Mr Steel told the parliamentary candidates that the two men had an amicable meeting and the differences between them were far less than would appear from press reports.

He had pointed out to Mr Smith that his essential pre-agreement to introduce a proportional representation at Westminster could be insisted upon only if the Liberal Party

agreement with the government.

Mr Steel told the assembly that the post-entry closed shop was far from being achieved.

From the conference, he said: "I assure you that this strong and decisive satisfaction among

Limit on investment in S Africa is urged

A resolution urging government action to limit investment in Southern Africa and to enforce "disinvestment" by British companies of the South African government was carried by a large majority.

Delegates also decided to urge the government to introduce a limit on the amount of private capital available to the white minority in South Africa and Rhodesia. The motion, which was moved by Mr David Hume (Cirencester and Tewkesbury), said that the white minority could contribute to development of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and had the right to be free from discrimination. It was carried.

Mr Paul Steel (London) moved the motion which deplored the support given by British interests to repressive white regimes in Rhodesia and South Africa and of Namibia.

It urged strict enforcement of sanctions, increased aid to Mozambique, compensation to front-line states that supported refugees, full trade union rights for workers, no aid to be given to the South African supporters of apartheid. She claimed her party stood for the values of family life, how children should enjoy a proper education, how state should protect families.

Mr Peter Bindon (Lancaster) moved an amendment, which was carried, stating that after universal franchise, the government should not have to limit investment in Southern Africa and Rhodesia.

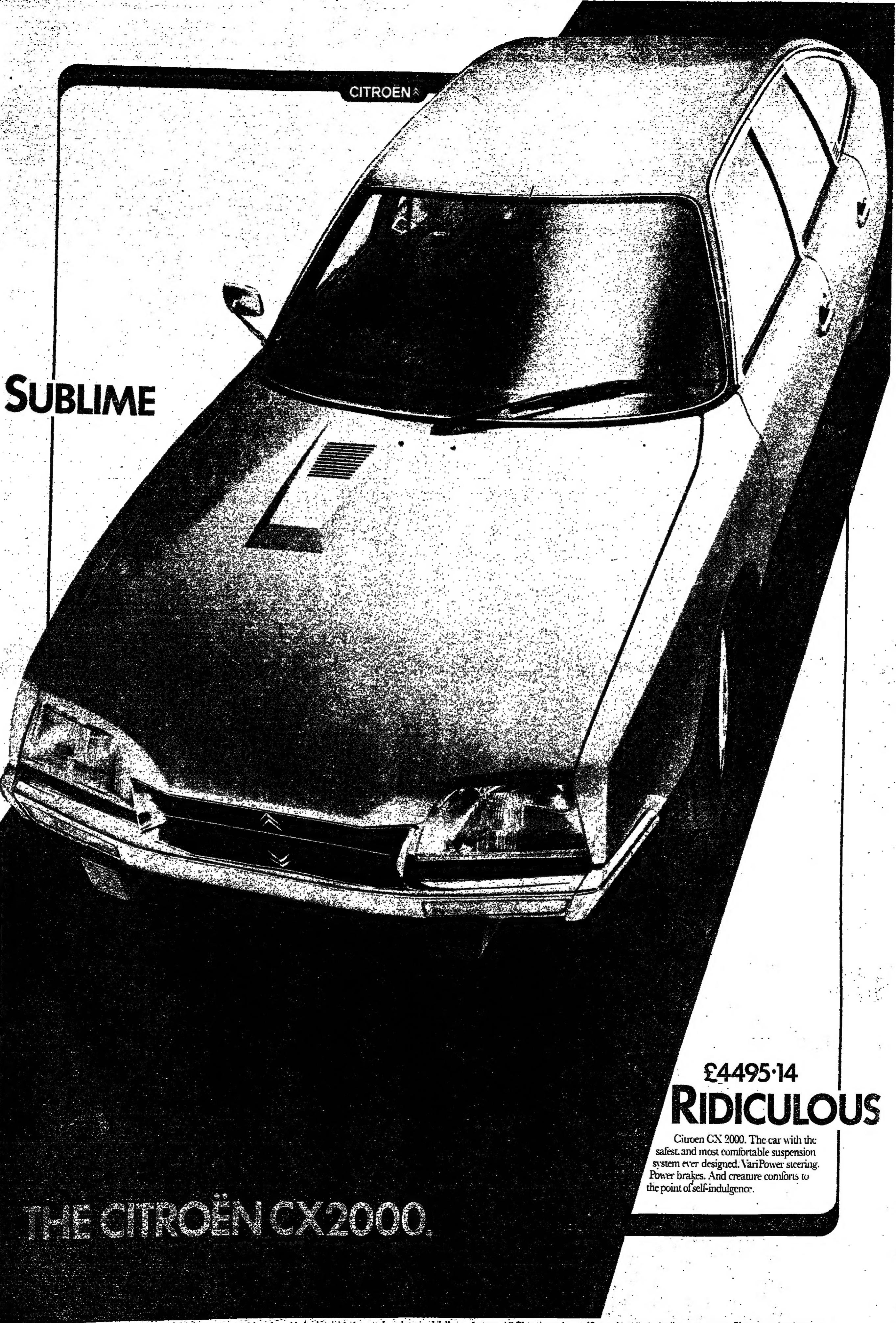
Mr Ian Sennett (Hemel Hempstead) said there were trade unions behind the dispute.

Some of them who began the strike deliberately engineered it, to ensure that the trade unions should not have a right which took away management's ability to dismiss troublemakers.

Mr John Dancer (Aylesbury) an Amalgamated Union of Engineering

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WEST EUROPE

Royal decree grants reinstatement of Catalan home rule

From William Chislett
Madrid, Sept 29

A royal decree reestablishing the Generalitat, the Catalan autonomous government suppressed by General Franco during the Civil War, is being enacted tonight by a special session of the Spanish Cabinet. The decree was approved unanimously today by the parliamentary committee for urgent legislation.

Señor Suárez, the Prime Minister, called the Cabinet meeting last night after agreement had been reached in Perpignan, France, with Señor Josep Tarradellas, the Generalitat president in exile, and Catalan politicians for the provisional reestablishment of the Generalitat while full terms are worked out under a new constitution.

Under the agreement Señor Tarradellas, who is 78, will return to Barcelona to preside over a new Generalitat, which will include representatives of the main political parties, seven advisers and a representative from each of the four provincial delegations which make up Catalonia.

The signatories promised to respect the principle of the unity of Spain and agreed that the provisional reestablishment of the Generalitat would not condition its future make-up when the constitution is drafted.

The reference to the "unity of Spain" was probably inserted into the agreement in order not to alarm conservatives.

Sugar states agree on quotas

Geneva, Sept 29.—The main sugar-exporting countries reached agreement today on world market quotas only one day before a 72-nation conference for a new sugar trade treaty was due to end here.

Sources said Cuba, Brazil and Australia accepted a compromise on tonnages for their annual exports which gives Cuba a quota of 2.5 million tons, and Brazil and Australia each 2.35 million tons.

The formula still requires the approval of the other sugar-exporting nations represented at Geneva, many of them developing countries. Once this is given, the exporters will meet importing countries to work out a new sugar treaty.

The dispute between the three largest exporters over their quotas had held up discussion on all other aspects of the agreement.—AP

Youths escape from Italian prison

L'Aquila, Italy, Sept 29.—Three teenage prisoners, one of them held on a murder charge, escaped from a jail here today, five days after six people got away from the same prison.

Reuter.

W German officers said to have sung Nazi songs

From Our Own Correspondent
Bochum, Sept 29

The Defence Ministry has ordered an investigation into a report that a group of West German army officers played at "burning Jews" during a drinking session in Munich earlier this year.

According to the report published in today's *Frankfurter Rundschau*, eight or 10 drunken officers wrote "Jew" on a piece of cardboard, threw it on the fire, shouted "Sieg Heil" and sang Nazi songs as.

The participants were all serving at the Munich army college where West German officers take university-level courses, the newspaper said. It claimed that they also scrawled swastikas over their essays. Herr Georg Leber, the

Defence Minister, said there should be no place for neo-Nazi students either in the officer corps or the army's colleges. The investigation would be rigorous and he wanted to know why he first heard of the alleged incident through the press.

Two deputies have tabled parliamentary questions asking for a full explanation. One of them, the Free Democratic Party's security spokesman, Herr Jürgen Möller, emphasized that the episode was not typical of the spirit in the West German army.

The president of the Munich Jewish community, Dr Hans Lamm, expressed "horror and dread" at the report. Even though the officers were drunk, they were clearly expressing their true sentiments, he said.

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OVERSEAS

Rhodesia Catholic body welcomes Mr Smith's suggestion of inquiry into atrocity allegations

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, Sept 29

The Roman Catholic Justice and Peace Commission said today it was "extremely happy" to learn that Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, would welcome an independent inquiry into its allegations of atrocities committed by some members of the Rhodesian security forces.

In a BBC programme on Monday Mr Smith said such allegations were a figment of the commission's imagination. A commission spokesman said today that his organization had asked repeatedly for five years for such an inquiry. It would be glad to cooperate with any independent and impartial commission of inquiry genuinely concerned with ascertaining the truth.

The spokesman said that the Government is now waiting for the appointment of the United Nations representative to be confirmed and for the British Government or the United Nations to reply to the invitation.

Chief Jeremy Chiru, leader of the Zimbabwe African People's Organization, has complained about Mr Joshua Nkomo, the African nationalist leader, being allowed to address the Security Council on the United Nations appointment, saying that his group should be afforded similar facilities.

Political observers see the invitation to Lord Carter as a shrewd move by Mr Smith, who dislikes long-distance confrontation and relishes meeting opponents head on. He jumped at the chance to meet Dr Henry Kissinger, the former United States Secretary of State, last September in Pretoria, invited Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, and his

predecessors to Salisbury, and welcomed Mr Andrew Young, the United States representative at the United Nations, to Salisbury at the beginning of the month.

Mr Smith feels that by meeting people face to face he can put them in the "true picture" about Rhodesia and not rely on second hand reports.

A visit here by the two men would enable Mr Smith to give them a first hand insight into Rhodesia's complexities and meet a cross-section of all races of people whose destinies they might well help to decide in the near future. At the same time Mr Smith would be able to weigh them up, and his assessment of representatives of the British Government and the United Nations, both of which he distrusts, is bound to influence his final decision on whether or not to accept the Anglo-American proposals.

New York, Sept 29.—The Security Council deferred a decision on the proposed appointment of a United Nations representative for Rhodesia after Mr Nkomo had raised unexpected conditions last night.

Mr Nkomo, co-chairman of the Rhodesian Patriotic Front, said Dr Kurr Waldheim, the Secretary-General, must name the representative in close consultation with the Security Council and the parties to the Rhodesian conflict. His duties powers and functions should be determined by the same procedures.

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Brenda and Linda before they were separated.

Siamese twins are parted

Massachusetts, New York, Sept 29.—Siamese twins Linda and Brenda McCall, have been successfully separated in a four-and-a-half-hour operation on Tuesday at North Shore University Hospital.

The doctors said they believe the girls were the first black Siamese twins successfully separated.

The twins weighed 11lb each at birth. Now they are about 9lb each.

They were joined at the breastbone and outer margins of the rib cage.

The girls, almost seven months old and joined since birth at the breastbone and outer margins of the rib cage, were separated in a four-and-a-half-hour operation on Tuesday at North Shore University Hospital.

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VERSEAS

Turkey tells West it is ready to move towards a solution of the Cyprus problem

By Mario Modiano

Istanbul, Sept 29.—The Turkish Government has assured its Western allies that it is in a position to negotiate a Cyprus settlement and enforce it.

The official Turkish view is that Greece and Turkey should take an active part when the intercommunal negotiations on Cyprus are resumed. It is therefore proposed that the Brussels agreement which had been worked out by the Turkish and Greek foreign ministers in December, 1975, should be revised.

The agreement provided for the creation of two subcommittees to operate in parallel line to the talks. One would deal with the constitutional issue and the federal powers, the other with the territorial question.

Greece and Turkey would be represented on the subcommittees by observers. The solution in view would not be far from what has been discussed before.

The latest moves for a Cyprus settlement coincided with the serious economic crisis in Turkey, leading many Turks to conclude that the United States was taking advantage of this to wrest concessions from them.

There is no reason to believe that the United States is not simply eager to help Turkey at this difficult moment, and the grant of \$100m (5000m) besides alleviating Turkey's heavy rearmament bill, would enhance its creditworthiness at a time of foreign exchange shortage.

These developments are the culmination of combined efforts by Britain and the United

States. They began in Ankara when Mr Frank Fudd, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, came earlier this month to air some new ideas.

It was later agreed that since the United States had the mediation mechanism for Cyprus this effort should be channelled through the Americans, especially in view of the Turkish Foreign Minister's scheduled visit to New York this month for the United Nations General Assembly.

A most point which Mr Fudd intends to explore at a meeting with Mr Demetrios Botsios, the Greek Foreign Minister, is the Greek attitude towards these developments. The Greek Government had resisted attempts to bring Greece directly into the Cyprus negotiating process on the ground that it was up to the Greek Cypriots to determine their political destiny.

Archbishop Makarios's death may have affected this attitude. The prospect of a general election in Greece in November is not likely to lower this resistance, particularly as there is little chance of a solution being reached before the Greek Cypriots elect a new President in February.

The present moves, therefore, if successful, may have to be limited to a Turkish Government commitment on Cyprus combined with the ratification of the Defence Cooperation Agreement, both in readiness for more substantial negotiations early next year.

U.S. Army academy comes under fire for failing to give cadets a proper education

A black mark for West Point

From Bernard Weisraub

Washington, Sept 29

An Army report has sharply criticized West Point's academic and training programmes, saying that the 175-year-old military academy is suffering from a slackening of the pursuit of excellence.

In a blunt assessment, the report by three generals says that West Point is plagued by poor morale, a lack of supervision and planning, unselective breeding, resistance to change, negative attitudes towards learning among cadets, and even a pervasive lack of humour. There is also a lack of coherent institutional purpose of the academy, the 17-page study says.

Cadets arrive at the academy wishing for and expecting to gain a good education, but certain characteristics of the environment undercut the academic programme.

"Although cadets continue to view the academic programme

as important to their success at West Point and as Army officers, the system does not seem to support that view. It does not require uniformly high performance, and it allows some relatively unqualified cadets to pass courses and graduate."

"Many cadets resolve this obvious inconsistency by adopting the attitude that, although education per se has importance, studies at West Point are often irrelevant and merit only a superficial approach."

In issuing the report, the study group has submitted 152 recommendations to General Bernard Rogers, the Army Chief of Staff. The proposals urge the Army to give cadets more time for serious academic work and less time to the many military, athletic and extracurricular activities.

The study, set up last year after the worst cheating scandal in West Point's history, is expected to serve as the basis for big changes at the academy.

Pakistan expected to postpone election

From Our Correspondent

Islamabad, Sept 29

General Zia, Pakistan's military ruler, indicated today that the general election arranged for October 18 would be postponed. He told reporters at a public function that his decision about postponement should be known finally by October 10.

After a meeting of the Military Council this evening, it was announced that the 23-year-old daughter of Mr Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, would be put under house arrest until October 3 for making what the authorities described as provocative speeches.

The regime also warned the civil courts to let the civil courts to deliver judgments in the many criminal charges against Mr Bhutto, that include murder and misappropriation of government funds.

General Zia told reporters he intended to let the civil courts try Mr Bhutto. One or two of Mr Bhutto's colleagues, however, would be tried by military courts to establish his claim that these courts were as just and impartial in their proceedings as any other courts.

He was inclined, he said, to accept the view that the credibility of public leaders should be established fully before a general election was held. That would be fair to Mr Bhutto as well, he added. The civil courts might not be able to decide the cases in the next 19 days.

Political observers have noted a clear shift in public opinion in favour of Mr Bhutto during the past few weeks. Many are more inclined to regard him as a moderate, not a criminal on trial. He was released by the High Court on bail in a murder case against him on September 13, but was detained under martial law order four days later.

It is being said that Mr Bhutto's opponents have been unnerved by enthusiastic public response to election meetings addressed by his wife and daughter in the past 10 days, putting their political calculations about the next election into serious doubt.

Meningitis vaccine 'proved effective'

From Our Own Correspondent

Washington, Sept 29

American doctors have reported an important breakthrough in preventing one of the most common forms of bacterial meningitis. The disease, which causes serious inflammation of membranes covering the brain and the spinal cord, often leads to death or neurological damage.

According to Dr R. M. Krause, Director of the

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases here, a new vaccine has been proved effective in immunizing children between the ages of three months and six years. This is the time when people are most susceptible to brain damage.

The vaccine, which was developed by American researchers to combat what is known as Group A meningococcal meningitis, has been tested on more than 70,000 Finnish children.

None of the children receiving the vaccine developed meningitis during a year of observation, compared with 13 who caught the disease among 32,000 who were not immunized.

Mr Krause described the outcome as "an important step forward in the control of this devastating illness."

Earlier tests had shown that the vaccine could be successfully used in immunizing older children and adults against the Group A strain of the disease.

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such delicacies as fillet of sole Verbanella and scaloppino Borromeo and drink a first class Italian wine. You are so well looked after, it's hardly surprising that the local personalities eat at Verbanella, 30 Beauchamp Place, SW3. Reservations: 01-584 1107.

Belmonte

Just a little out of Town, near London Airport, the Belmonte Restaurant offers mouth-watering Italian and French food. In this relaxing, chalet-style restaurant, you can not only dine on the regular specialities, such as scampi Marco Polo but, when available, on grouse and other seasonal delights. Your comfort and enjoyment are assured here, with a wine list to complement the delicious food. Belmonte is at 32 Sunbury Cross Centre, Sunbury, Middlesex. Reservations: Sunbury 89223.

L'Artiste Affamé

It is not only 'hungry artists' who will appreciate this romantic 19th century restaurant which serves such tasty fare. To the sound of a guitar, you can satisfy your appetite with such delights as haddock cooked in brandy and cream, or fillet of steak with a three-mustard sauce. The 400 year old wine press in the centre is appropriate to the excellent list. L'Artiste Affamé is at 243 Old Brompton Rd, SW7. Reservations: 01-373 1659.

Keats

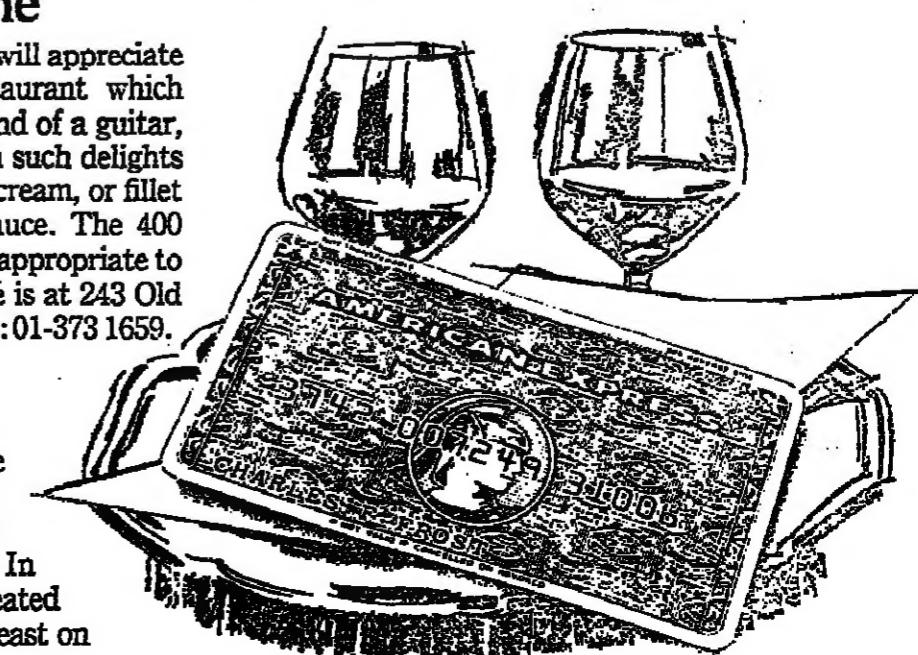
Two minutes from the poet's last house, Keats is one of those gastronomic oases which attract the connoisseur - a hint at the high standard of French cuisine here. In the informal literary atmosphere, you can choose from a menu which demands some firm decisions, so enticing are the dishes. The wine list includes 'the finest collection of Burgundies assembled under one roof'. Keats is at 3 Downshire Hill, NW3. Reservations: 01-435 3544.

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Death penalty inference to be held in Nigeria

By Our Correspondent

Ibadan, Sept 29

The All Africa Conference of Churches (AAC) is to sponsor a high-level conference on the death penalty in Africa to be held in Ibadan, Nigeria, from October 3 to 8. The conference originally was to be held in Ibadan, but has been moved to "unforeseen circumstances", according to the AAC headquarters here.

The 30 experts attending will include jurists, criminologists, theologians and government and church leaders. Mr Simon Nsereko, International Affairs Secretary, said they would carry out an investigation into the deterrent and non-deterrent effects of capital punishment as exercised in Africa.

The findings will be sent to African heads of state, and also be presented to the conference on the death penalty, to take place in Stockholm, in December.

The death penalty has been condemned by African countries in general. In Nigeria and Kenya there have recently been public executions.

THE ARTS

The very best of friends

Annie Hall (aa). Cinecenta/Screen on the Green/Odeon 3, Swiss Cottage

Pumping Iron (a) Studio 2/ABC Fulham Road/ABC Bayswater Road

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man (aa) Academy One

Outlaw Blues (aa)

Warner West End

Pelvis (x)

Studio 2/Soho Cinema/

Jacey, Trafalgar Square Woody Allen—the persona, that is, that he invents, writes, acts and directs—is the most authentic figure of our times. The little Bronx Jew with spiky curly hair, outside horns, chronic muscular underdevelopment and thirsty cultural aspirations, notwithstanding such specific racial and geographical orientations, Everyman for the Seventies. He has inherited the world of Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon, of political assassination and lung cancer and Sunday supplement culture, of lingering gout and anxiety over McCarthy and Vietnam and the ecology and Marilyn Monroe. If anything separates him from the rest, it is a desperate inability to escape into fantasy. The tragicomedy of the Allen character is to be a realist in a terrible world.

In *Annie Hall*—a nervous romance—it closes in much lighter than before on truth and reality. He is still the same wispy fool trotsing to keep step with all the other wispy fools who baffle with life and love and ambition; but here he depends less on the comic hyperbole than in earlier films. This is a film about a single relationship, which encapsulates the insoluble problem of all human relationships. The strong sense that it is a considerable if unspecified degree autobiographical is reinforced by the knowledge that in real life Allen and Diane Keaton really did become intimates, like Alvy Singer and Annie Hall in the film, after Keaton acted in the original stage production of *Allen's Play It Again, Sam*.

The lesson of the film is that relationships are not so much established on compatibility as on incompatibilities that are not quite so unbearable as with other people. You understand why Alvy and Annie need each other, when he takes up with another girl. He explains he's been fitter since he gave up

smoking. "How long was that?" "Sixteen years ago." Annie would understand at once: this girl scatters disbelief and wants him to explain. Annie might have fantasy phobias about spiders and lobsters; but they talk the same language.

Although—perhaps because—there are no longer the visual evanescences of Allen's earlier films (if we exclude the marvelous flashbacks of his childhood in a wooden hotel which resides under the Coney Island roller coaster), both Keaton and Allen are at the peak of their comic form. Keaton is mistress of the sort of verbal confusions that turn practical comedy into a tennis match into a Mad Hatter dialogue. Standing in line to see *The Sorcerer* and the Pity for the fifth time, Allen becomes a small, red-faced volcano of rumbling anger at the movie culture chat of the man behind, and finally, permitting himself a momentary release into fantasy, produces the real-life Marshall McLuhan out of thin air to put down the offender. "If only real life were like that," he sighs to the audience. Such moments of delirium apart, *Annie Hall* is as good as it is because its comedy is always on the brink of the minor tragedies of real life and love.

Schwarzenegger is able to carry off the unflinching self-confidence and unyielding egocentrism that alone can account for a career like his, by reason of utterly irresistible charm and wit. Having now given up competitive bodybuilding and established himself as a successful businessman, he has a further fulfilling ambition to be a film star. His previous role in *Bob Rafelson's Step Hungry* earned him a Golden Globe award for best male acting debut; and he is now set for a film series about a Seventies superman.

Joseph Strick persists in adapting James Joyce to the screen. A decade after *Ulysses*, he pays his homage to *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. It is an affectionate, devote series of illustrations, with sardonic Irish locales, some gifted Irish players (T. P. McKenna, Bosco Hogan, Maureen Porter), one or two vivid tributes from Joyce (the Christmas dinner), a thrilling Gielgud cameo (the hellfire sermon at the retreat).

But a pictorialization is a pictorialization, and where the words are paramount, as in Joyce, it can only be a subtraction. Nor, as a pictorialization, is it very certain that it will also be a popularization (which would be no bad thing). As an undoubted labour of love, the enterprise looks a bit misguided.

Outlaw Blues is a youth film with a vengeance, and if its reflection of total disillusion and mistrust in the face of the



Mr Olympia and admirers

adult and the establishment are half way true, it is a poignant socio-cultural comment. Peter Fonda plays Robin Hood or Sir Percy Blakeney in the world of "outlaw" country and western music that centres on Austin, Texas.

A long-term prisoner (mainly due to manifestations of his un-governable temperment) he is released from jail, to discover that his best song has been stolen by a grey-headed country and western star. He suffers the same fate in a competition and is outed when he is befriended by a girl from the recording studios who skillfully premiers his own recording to the top of the charts, by appro-

priating the police man-hunt-as a publicity stunt. Under the noses of the police and their publicity-hunting chief, a candidate for political office, the couple engineer a series of hit-and-run appearances at concerts and radio stations.

It is directed by Richard T. Heffron, who despite the underlying pessimism and the obligatory car and boat chases, sustains the humour and charm of the film. To these qualities Peter Fonda and Susan Saint James, who makes the girl believably steely as well as attractive, contribute significantly.

Politically, whatever the advertising might suggest, isn't porn; nor, as its title might

imply, is it an unhappily timed sequel to the original of the Late Great. It is a bit of high-spirited, incoquintial rude soubasse about the lower depths of the rock world, vaguely set on *The Wizard of Oz*. As "Palvis", Lusher "Bud" Whaney, an attractive hunkie who sings well, dreams his way to the big city, where he is confronted by nightmarish distortions of theatrical agents and impresarios and fans. The cleverest part of it is the songs, with titles like "All Dressed Up in Rubber and No Place to Go" and lines which, when audible, are witty perversions of the sentiments of rock lyrics.

David Blake's bold venture

Toussaint Coliseum

William Main

David Blake's *Toussaint* or *The Aristocracy of the Skin*, given its first performance on Wednesday night, is a bold venture for a baptism in lyric theatre, epic by intention, ethical and political in argument. In short, it is a spectacular account of the bloody years between 1791 and 1803 when the black slaves of St Domingue expelled their white French rulers and established the independent black republic of Haiti.

The leader of the rebellion was the crooked slave Toussaint L'Ouverture. He is the central part of Blake's opera which is the tragedy of Toussaint, who died a French prison, some few months before one of his generals, Dessalines, proclaimed himself Emperor of independent Haiti. The opera's libretto, by Anthony Ward, carefully plots the rise and downfall of Toussaint, yet concludes with the black populace of Haiti as established protagonist.

The music, though somewhat overextended (the premiere lasted four hours), is admirably orchestrated for audibility of words and vocal line. Blake employs a modest orchestra, and much textural refinement: the exotic percussion department is effectively and discreetly drawn upon. Speech, recitative, arioso, set-number, ensemble and full chorus are deployed multifariously; there is plenty of musical and reflective vocal music, not only in the tradition of Berg (Lulu) more than Wozzeck) and Eisler.

Other popular veins can be heard in festive or character

numbers, often accompanied by acid or egocentric comment against the grain of pastiche—the formal quadrille in Act II provides a telling instance. They give an interesting contrast to the serious tone of the piece (the action as well as the music). In the face of the opera's impractical length one might want to omit, say, the scene in which a rich near-white woman is set upon by poor whites and colonials, and viciously lynched: it is redundant dramatically but important to the context of the black revolt. Much of the charal music seems static and protracted, but to shorten it might mar the musical proportions.

One example would be the extended lament of the women for their men at the battle of Crête à Pierrot, the end of Act II, it is slow, beautiful, drawn out even as a relaxation after the thunder and canter of battle, sung with exquisite rendering. To speed curtain-fall would surely involve drastic re-composition, perhaps less telling.

With all its length questionable only because the dramatic canvas is not sustained musically at epic stature, *Toussaint* is a noble first opera, a cogent subject imaginatively treated for opera for singers and actors. For orchestra only sometimes though memorably, for scenery, costumes, lighting and stage direction all the time.

David Pountney's resourceful disposition of crowds and manipulation of leading characters (however, momentary their appearance), Nick Chelton's virtuous effects of lighting, whether slow or sudden transitions of density and colour. Maria Björnson's pyrotechnics

raped. She undergoes a mystic wedding with another woman, transformation of her woman, Cherbino-like favourite. Adversity increases her fondness for her oppressor, but when they get to bed together, he proves to be her husband who wakes turns off the radio, kisses her on the forehead, and goes straight to sleep again.

Prokofiev's treatment is unimaginative. With none of the frantic rolling about that too often denotes passion in ballet, the two duets convincingly suggest a growing desire. The one with Alexandra Worrall proves the more erotic, with its doffing of veils and garlands, its final kiss of recognition. Philio Langdon gives a chilly lust to the other, but Penelope Wright carries the ballet's main weight, very effectively too.

I think Prokofiev's remembrance that files need undoing before rape is a first for this touch of realism in ballet, but the assault itself is shielded from view by a crowd of excited onlookers. Similarly, although the captor at one point advances threateningly with switch raised, a blackout leaves the beating to the audience's imagination as well as the heroine's.

Abducted, she is first pampered, then tied to a bed and

John Riley has arranged a collage score: substantial chunks of Rachmaninov, a Bach unaccompanied cello piece for the abduction, Mozart Vespers for her oppression, the gay wedding with incantations of Subotnik and others. The individual pieces each support their own episodes, and disparate sources and abrupt breaks suit the dramatic structure.

Daydreams made a substantial dramatic cornerstone for a programme that otherwise had more ambition than achievement. To put Wright and Langdon in the Black Swan due was pushing their luck, and Terry Gilber's *Faustus Green* proved a slick, trite and un-musical run-around to Tippett's concerto for double string orchestra.

There was also something claiming to be a *divertissement* to the "Shadows" scene in *La Bayadère*, its not too difficult steps danced prettily but giddily by Sui Kan Chiang and her chubby, cheerful partner, Alpo Pakarinen, two other soloists, and a chorus of six. The choreography is by Juan Sanchez after Marius Petipa. Can anyone tell me whether the Trade Descriptions Act applies to ballet?

Giulini's return to opera

John Higgins



Photograph by David Jones

Carlo Maria Giulini will record his first opera in over a decade next year.

It is not an easy work. Apart from Rigoletto—and I recall Leonard Warren singing that role supremely well—there is Gilda. Too often the part goes to a soprano *leggiera*. Toscanini was right against that sort of casting. So am I. It demands a *vocca lirica*. Gilda is a young woman who has the courage to try and save the man with whom she is infatuated. There are the two sentiments at the centre of the opera: *amore* and *la paternità*. Verdi was very careful to weld the music to the words. I've owned for a long time the facsimile of the first sketches he made for Rigoletto, and it shows that he was very careful to make the vocalization of it male. The key to Gilda is that he is not only working against others but that he does so with such finesse and delight. There is the aesthetic pleasure. Once you have that dimension you can think about *Orcetto*.

Giulini's reluctance to go back to opera has long been a mystery. He had a long career with the *Met* and *La Scala*, and record collectors alike. Why has Rigoletto enticed him to return?

"I think most of the persuading has been done by DC and my wife. We had agreed on a number of orchestral works, including the fourth and eighth symphonies by Schubert, and Dvorak, all of which we will record with the Chicago Symphony next year together with Britten's *Les Illuminations*. Then came the question of opera. I feel that I am being given the right cast and my wife knew of my admiration for Rigoletto. She said I had to do it.

"The great power of this opera lies in the complete contention Verdi gives of a human being, the span of emotions he reveals from the lowest to the most sublime. In no other work is the feeling of a father expressed with such depth and tenderness. And not only a father. When Rigoletto returns to the Duke of Mantua's palace, and finds what has happened to his daughter, a small, ugly figure becomes a giant because of his suffering. He might have killed her, but instead he says, 'Riangi! Weep! That is the

conduct of Aida.

"I confess I am afraid of that work. How do you resolve the problem of a piece which is so intimate and so grand? It is a chamber opera interrupted by a triumph scene. I have no solution so far. *Orcetto* is a different matter: for long it has been a dream for me, one of the great operas which knock on my door time and again. The difficulty here is *Iago*.

"I see him as a very beauti-

ful, almost innocent young man. I met him once during the war when I was at the front. There was this young officer, very handsome, very much the *gran signore*, who was also the personification of *il male*. The key to *Iago* is that he is not only working against others but that he does so with such finesse and delight. There is the aesthetic pleasure. Once you have that dimension you can think about *Orcetto*.

"So could there be a move in the opposite direction to the bel canto repertory? Giulini, who worked so long with Serafin and de Sabata, could not be better qualified.

"The requirement here is voice. With operas like *Elisir* and *Pagliacci*, the problems are not so great. But when you move to *Lucia* or *Belinda* you need voice and great melodic expression. I consider these operas as masterpieces, and I could only work with artists who think the same way."

And that means creating a new *Callas*?

"There is the only solution. She had the capacity to breathe life into the words; she had the musicianship for the melodic line; she had the willingness and the ability to act. She was the personification of *melodramma*."

Carlo Maria Giulini's Festival Hall concert with the Philharmonia on Sunday will be dedicated to Maria Callas.

Bubbling Brown Sugar Royalty

Irving Wardle

Whatever your prejudices on descending into the blood red pleasure-drome in Portugal Street, they will be knocked flat by the performance that awaits you down below. *Bubbling Brown Sugar* has earned a tidy sum on Broadway and it richly deserves every cent. It is a reminder of a lost age of the American theatre, when popular entertainment meant burlesque professionalism to the smallest production detail, and when even the pickiest reviewers could accept the musical as a national art form.

A guided tour of Harlem from prohibition to Pearl Harbour, LaFrenz Mitchell's book is safely cocooned in a period before Broadway lost its nerve. What it celebrates is a myth of huge, explosive confidence, with no rumbles of poverty or Wall Street to darken the non-stop round of speakeasies, backrooms and house-rent parties, and no threat of the subversive, which subsequently turned Harlem into a virtual no-go area for whites. In the world of this show, a toothy Harvard boy can sit in a bar and talk about slumming and his daddy's views on mixing with coloureds and still get taken on the grand tour by Billy Armstrong and Son.

The tour amounts to no more than a threadbare pretext for revisiting Harlem's musical past: even when it comes to staging the numbers, the approach could not be more guileless. Again and again, Mr Daniels leads his little party to a fresh location, the name of another hallowed night-spot flashes up on the back wall of

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the show is delivered in inverted commas.

The amazing thing is that song number begins in broadsides by gripping your heart. This is partly the result of a technique. The dances (chorus, graphed by Billy Wilson) cover a range of sensuality. The voices, particularly among the women, have an extraordinary range, and take what seem suicidal risks. More impressive than the fresh invention is the fact that the most common-show business gesture are equally full of meaning. They seem to come straight from the heart. And if I could recommend one number, it would be Helen Geirer's "Go, Bless the Child" which stand full comparison with Bill Holliday. Altogether a joyous noise, and for sheer glamour, there is nothing in London to touch it.

It is directed by Richard T. Heffron, who despite the underlying pessimism and the obligatory car and boat chases, sustains the humour and charm of the film. To these qualities Peter Fonda and Susan Saint James, who makes the girl believably steely as well as attractive, contribute significantly.

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imply, is it an unhappily timed sequel to the original of the Late Great. It is a bit of high-spirited, incoquintial rude soubasse about the lower depths of the rock world, vaguely set on *The Wizard of Oz*. As "Palvis", Lusher "Bud" Whaney, an attractive hunkie who sings well, dreams his way to the big city, where he is confronted by nightmarish distortions of theatrical agents and impresarios and fans. The cleverest part of it is the songs, with titles like "All Dressed Up in Rubber and No Place to Go" and lines which, when audible, are witty perversions of the sentiments of rock lyrics.

Fresh from an unforgettable appearance as Carmen Miranda,

John Higgins

"I haven't worked with a dog for years," remarks George Burns as he leans into a song over the top of the piano and when Rowdy crashes into a cadence that nearly results in the loss of an eye. Fozzie performs "The Old Kent Road" and Pearl King abandons "Watch the hands!" he cries deviously as the head is carried back between the years. Schubert gets an exclusive from an anonymous Swedish chief and Waldorf spires his old friend in the studio. Brawdy with predictable confusion to the critics on stage. I say, although he has comparatively little to do tonight, I mean that the little dark bird with the bent beak is being prepared for some stardom in this series. In a later show—the one with Rich Little, the American impersonator—Gonzo suddenly comes on stage with a dancing chicken act ("OK, everyone with Broadway experience step forward") which is the funniest thing I have seen since *Animal Crackers* and devours you don't know the meaning of "devour" until you see this garrulous computer. And that is tonight.

his light rhythmic bounce and his clear, lyrical counterpoint in the C minor Allegro, made more moving by its mobility. Even our little *Lander*, were not allowed to escape without making a contribution to the recital of sentiment and dignity.

Paul Griffiths

"Tobacco, tobacco, sing sweetly for tobacco!" That lute song by Tobias Bunte suggests that the association between smoking and music is getting on for four centuries old, so it should come as no surprise that we have had a John Player Festival and now a Benson and Hedges Festival of Music.

Taking place at the Snape Maltings, the latter appropriately includes a fair quantity of Britten's chamber music and song. Its second centre is in the music of Schubert, which makes a nice parallel, and one that would surely have appealed to Britten. He might also have been cheered by the use of the Maltings as venue for a competition for young lieder singers, the final part of which will close the festival on Sunday.

If the end holds the promise of discovery, Tuesday evening's opening recital was in the safe and sure hands of Sviatoslav Richter, which is not to say that his Schubert programme did not reveal some of its own.

Most characteristic of Richter's approach was the slow opening of the late G major Sonata, where the music seemed to be proceeding in its own hesitant way, gently exploring the implications of its ideas, arriving with a serene happiness at each forward step. There was a sense that this was how the music was composed.

Perhaps I make the performance sound objective, but in fact this was the most valuable kind of objectivity, one alert to every nuance of expressive detail set in place by the composer. Richter's fluent tone and his exquisite control of rubato ensured there was no emotional warping of the work, nor did he shirk the need for contrast.

Can Labour learn to stop worrying and love the EEC?

Rashly optimistic though the idea may seem, next week's Labour Party conference may bring encouragement to those who would like to see Britain cooperating more whole heartedly in the European Community.

The portents suggest that what Mrs Barbara Castle, a virulent anti-Marketeer, recently called a quiet revolution has taken place, and that the Labour movement as a whole is just about ready to accept the reality of Britain's EEC membership, almost four years after the event. Perhaps the Brighton conference will show that British socialists are even ready to play a full part in efforts to build a better and more democratic EEC.

Among the hopeful auguries have been the TUC's overwhelming rejection earlier this month of a motion favouring withdrawal, after Mr Jack Jones had described it as undemocratic and undemocratic in the light of the referendum. Then Mr Peter Shore, a prominent anti-Marketeer, said it would be "frivolous" to reopen the question of membership without evidence of a settled and ponderous desire to secede; and Mrs Castle has warned against fighting the next general election on a negative platform, and has urged that the momentum be forward, not back.

Even the somewhat curmudgeonly statement of the Labour Party's National Executive Council to the conference, while speaking of the goal of "a wider but much looser grouping of European states", calls for fundamental reform, not withdrawal.

These events have made a strong impression on the leaders of both the pro and anti-EEC ginger groups in Britain. Lord Thomson of Monifieth, chairman of the European Movement, former Labour Cabinet minister and one of Britain's first Commissioners in Brussels, thought the TUC vote in particular was "immensely important". Some of the trade union leaders had described it to him as a "watershed" in the Labour movement's acceptance of the reality of membership, he said in an interview.

He thought that the way Mr Jones had "very realistically" demolished the case for reopening the issue of membership, while stressing that he had lots of criticisms of the way the EEC worked, provided a good deal of common ground for those previously labelled as "pros" and "cons".

Earlier this summer, he recalled, some people on the national executive and in the Tribune Group had sought to reopen the whole issue of continued membership. "What the TUC has done, with the instinctive common sense that the trade union movement often has, is to say this is not a political reality."

"I certainly hope that what will come out of the Labour Party conference is a confirmation of the TUC attitude, and therefore a willingness to tackle in a constructive way the very serious problems of the reform of the Community."

Lord Thomson could not understand why the national executive had been "sulking in a corner", as he put it, over the preparations for direct elections to the European Parliament next spring. The party had joined the Confederation of European Socialist Parties, but it had made the worst of this

Roger Berthoud

The Why, When, Where and How of Hine Cognac

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A win for Mrs Thatcher in the Liberal game of Let's Pretend

This absolutely ravishing girl from Lager (The Liberal Action Council for Electoral Reform) said to me yesterday: "Let's pretend!" So we pretended that Brighton was a four seat proportional representation constituency and that the people of the Regency watering hole were to be offered the chance of using which well known MPs they would wish to represent them at Westminster.

As the whole thing was being run by a Liberal pressure group, fresh from triumph in the assembly over the party's commitment to electoral reform, the day promised to be an eventful one. Armed with ballot papers which included the names in alphabetical order of Benn, Callaghan, Grimond, Heath, Joseph, Owen, Prentice, Smith, Steel, Thatcher, Thorpe and Whitelaw, we set forth to

Early birds peck at the pact

A crucial and unexpected test of the Lib-Lab pact came yesterday when delegates to next week's Labour Party conference arrived prematurely in Brighton to find their favourite bedrooms and bars occupied by Liberal. A far from cordial entente was established when representatives of Labour's NEC actually protested to the Liberal Assembly's steering committee.

The problem is, of course,

that Socialists seem to have so much business to get through (or perhaps they are just very busy?) that they cannot see their annual conference through in the space of a single week.

The NEC actually holds its first meeting today, and the weekend offers a diary so full of events that I may have to miss Sunday's soccer match between journalists covering the conference and the Transport House All Star XI.

Mr Carter listens to the march of history in his campaign for human rights



President Carter and Pinochet: promises made in Washington are not always kept.



Although his flamboyant personal gestures on behalf of political dissidents appear to have ceased, President Carter has made it abundantly clear that his administration will persist with its crusade to uphold human rights at home and abroad.

In his latest public statement on his aims he says that since he took office some eight months ago he has sought "to weave a due regard for those rights into the fabric" of United States foreign policy.

"One of the incidental effects of this necessarily somewhat experimental effort has been a nationwide—indeed world wide—debate on the nature of human rights and how best they may be advanced," he writes in an article specially commissioned for the *Baltimore Sun*.

Conceding this is no easy task, he points out, that human rights cannot be the only goal of United States foreign policy, at least not in a world in which peace is literally a matter of survival.

"We are circumscribed by the fact that a choice that moves us towards one of our goals

may move us farther away from another and by the limits of our power.

"In this imperfect world, the results of our actions will usually be mixed even when our motives are not," Mr Carter believes. Nevertheless

through public discussion and private persuasion, he feels that some progress has been made, although "quick or easy results cannot be expected in a struggle which has been going on for centuries."

This pragmatic assessment of the difficulties inherent in pursuing an effective human rights policy and the long-term nature of the whole enterprise courage, somewhat with the excessive idealism of some of his earlier actions in support of Soviet dissidents, for example, the recent absence of sym-

bolic interventions like his letter to Dr Andrei Sakharov and his meeting with Mr Vladimir Bukovsky shortly after he took office points to a significant change of tactics.

After successfully stimulating international awareness of human rights abuses, the emphasis is now placed on more discrete and direct pressures between government leaders or their representatives.

Thus when Mr Carter met Latin American leaders individually during the recent festivities surrounding the signing of the new Panama Canal treaties he refrained from public criticism of any oppressive

regime. Keenly aware he needed their support in his campaign to sell the treaties in Congress and the American public, he clearly wanted to avoid any dispute which might mar an otherwise harmonious occasion.

A few months earlier he

might have been tempted to do his discussions with a controversial figure like President

Augusto Pinochet of Chile as a useful occasion for some criticism before the television cameras or even to boycott him as some human rights groups had demanded. But on that occasion he had other factors more important foreign policy goals.

Notwithstanding this generally lower key approach to human rights, however, there have been several recent instances where the administration has felt the need to issue a public statement. The most obvious of these was the statement by Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, that he was "shocked and saddened" at the mysterious death of Mr Steven Biko, the black African leader, in a South African jail.

The rule of thumb in deciding whether to make public the administration's displeasure of a particular violation depends on the gravity of the offence in question and the significance of the individual involved, senior administration officials say. Mr Biko, for example, was a major political figure whose treatment was clearly the responsibility of the South African government. One official says, "His death wasn't something that occurred out of nowhere. It was within the control of the government and represented a clear defiance of accepted standards."

White public castigation of human rights infringements has been the most conspicuous aspect of the administration's human rights policy, other less publicised pressures like the threatened withdrawal of economic and military aid have apparently after Washington had warned that a new 2,500,000 dollar military aid agreement might be held up. There has also been a growing willingness among Latin American countries to permit human rights investigations by international bodies.

Nevertheless, it is not at all clear after only a few months how many of these actions are genuine signs of a change of heart or have been taken for purely cosmetic reasons.

Human rights campaigners in the United States fear the

States aid, have taken steps, albeit modest, to comply with American wishes. After a visit to Chile, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay last month, Mr Terence Toole, Assistant Secretary of State, said he had detected a considerable decline in the number of political arrests, disappearances and cases of torture in these countries.

More recently the Nicaraguan Government has lifted the state of siege it imposed some three years ago, apparently after Washington had warned that a new 2,500,000 dollar military aid agreement might be held up.

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As might be expected, President Carter still professes optimism in the long run. "His policy moves slowly and fitfully," he writes in the *Baltimore Sun*. "But as long as we are true to ourselves, history, where human rights are concerned, is on our side."

Indeed, one of the drawbacks of the prominence of the human rights issue under President Carter is that wayward governments are tempted to clamp down even further on dissenters and the local press out of fear of retaliation by the United States if their crimes are discovered. This appears to be happening in Chile, for instance, after a number of recent bombings in central Santiago; several foreign correspondents were summoned by the government press office and warned they might be imprisoned or expelled if they published the news outside Chile.

Outside those parts of Latin America, Africa and the Far East, where American economic and military influence is greatest, the campaign for enhanced human rights has been considerably less successful. Indeed in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, it has proved counterproductive in terms of fulfilling other crucial American foreign policy goals like aiding the armed forces.

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US ECONOMY FALTERS

The United States has traditionally been thought of as the most robust economy in the Western industrialized world. It is less subject to shocks from overseas than the more open trading economies of Europe, or than with its heavy structural dependence on exports. Because of this relative insulation, it is often able to develop at its own pace than the other industrialized economies. Its currency has, also, historically been more stable than most, partly because of its international role, which limits the desire and ability of holders of dollars to switch into other currencies in response to purely American developments; and partly because when all is said and done most international investors see the American economy as sound, and American business one of the best in which to have a stake.

This confidence seemed fully justified in the first six months of this year. Despite the continued sluggish growth in the rest of the world the United States expanded vigorously. The rate in the first three months, indeed, was considerably faster than had been expected and the pace was almost maintained in the second three months of the year. However a spate of gloomy indicators over the summer has led many economists at home and abroad to doubt whether the United States can continue to move ahead at this pace and pull the rest of the world with it.

There is little doubt that the growth rate of 6 to 7 per cent experienced in the first half of this year will not be matched in the coming months. The composite index of leading indicators, which caused such concern when provisional figures showed a decline for three months in a row, was subsequently estimated to have risen in July and August, after only two months in decline. Its continuing implication, however, is still a significant slowing

down of economic activity. This is certainly the case with house building, which was very strong in the early part of the year. Equally, the weakness of retail sales, which fell even in money terms between March and July, will undermine general business confidence. A slowdown in general consumer demand is widely expected, as personal incomes are now growing less quickly than earlier in the year and unemployment resolutely remains around the 7 per cent mark.

As, however, the economy was expanding much faster than its underlying potential capacity, some slow down may in any case have been necessary. More worrying, perhaps, is the fact that inflationary patterns are still firmly established, the domestic money supply shows signs of expanding far too fast, the trade and current account deficits have grown alarmingly and are expected to widen further, with the consequent danger to stability of the dollar which is now being taken as a serious threat by the international banking community.

The drastic changes in the underlying economic framework implied by President Carter's proposals on energy and tax reform increase this feeling of uncertainty and have been blamed by some American businessmen for a lack of business confidence, which has held back productive investment, and for the depressed state of the American stock market.

Yesterday's statement by the Treasury Secretary, Mr Michael Blumenthal, that there was little chance of a reduction in the trade deficit next year, led immediately to a weakening of the dollar in foreign exchange markets. This is proof that the dollar is no longer immune to the economic situation, and a warning that the American Government cannot decide to

AUTONOMY FOR CATALONIA

The restoration of the Generalitat de Catalunya, thirty-eight years after its suppression by General Franco's forces, is an event to be greeted with some emotion by the Catalan people's many friends and admirers in their country, whether readers of George Orwell or not.

Most often rendered into English as "autonomous government", the word *Generalitat* in fact embraces more than that. First used in the Middle Ages as a shorter name for the *Diputació del General de Catalunya*, a kind of permanent watchdog committee set up by the *Corts*, or Catalan parliament—the word came to mean all the autonomous institutions of Catalonia taken as a whole, the educational expression, as it were, of Catalonia's corporate and separate existence. Perhaps the nearest English translation would be "the commonwealth". Under the Statute of 1932 the Generalitat comprised four institutions: a parliament, elected directly by the people, with extensive legislative powers; a president, elected by the parliament; a *Consell*, or government, whose members were chosen and dismissed by the president as well as being, like him, responsible to parliament; and a Supreme Court of Justice, whose members were chosen by parliament and independent of the executive.

Despite their many and deep political divisions during the 1930s, it would be fair to say that this statute was cherished by almost all Catalans, and even more so after its abolition and their enforced incorporation into Franco's state, in which Castilian Spanish was the only official language and for long even the most harmless expres-

of President Tarradellas was put forward most vigorously by those who sought a confrontation with Madrid, and with rather less conviction by those who looked forward to a realistic negotiation.

The situation was changed by the election result, which in Catalonia—in sharp contrast with the rest of Spain—gave a majority to the left-wing parties.

Setting logic aside, the Spanish prime minister—who is a very astute politician—decided to seek agreement with Senator Tarradellas in the first instance, in order to cut some of the ground from under the feet of the Catalan deputies, and especially of the largest group among them, the Socialists, who were likely to be the most turbulent in their demands for autonomy.

Earlier this month the tactic nearly backfired, when the Catalan Socialist leader, Senyor Reventos, threatened to veto any project which did not immediately recognize a Catalan parliament as well as the president and his Council. But having by then secured the support of President Tarradellas, Senator Suarez was able to embark on a second round of negotiations in which the Catalan political parties were included, and which has now ended in an agreement ensuring their representation within the *Consell*.

This has enabled the Generalitat to be restored in provisional form, with President Tarradellas at its head, pending the drafting of a new Spanish constitution in which the Catalan deputies will certainly play a full part. The return of Senyor Tarradellas to Barcelona as president, within the next few days, should be one of the more memorable public occasions in recent European history.

Parents on school boards

From Mrs G. Eisner

Sir, Where is the evidence that parents can more say in the running of schools?

How many erstwhile grammar schools will have to be recreated and comprehensive schools consequently yet again reorganized, to provide a geographical spread throughout the country, when a major parental concern is already the cost of travel to schools even 10 miles away from home? Has the Conservative Party consulted its potential voters? My impression in this predominantly Conservative area of the country is that there is no demand for such a policy. The main concern of parents with able children is not the lack of schools specifically providing highly academic education, but that the comprehensive schools shall cater, as they were intended to do, for pupils of the highest ability as well as for those of average and below average ability.

The Headmasters' Conference was lukewarm in its reception of Mr St John Stevens' schemes. One hopes the Conservative Party will take this as an indication that even its beneficiaries may not be enthusiastic about the restoration and extension of the direct grant system and that to many people it will appear to be a costly distraction from the task of ensuring that the comprehensive system is given the resources to meet the needs of all pupils.

Yours faithfully,
P. R. WATKINS,
Headmaster,
Chichester High School for Boys,
Kingsmead Road,
Chichester, Sussex.

Civil Service pay

From Mr I. B. Simpson

Sir, Mr Kendall's delightful suggestion (September 23) that civil servants do not receive increments in pay, they just have increments removed, is reminiscent of a Swiss advertisement which some years ago stated that in Switzerland hotel prices are not raised in summer and are even lower in winter.

Yours faithfully,
I. B. SIMPSON,
7 Sandy Lane,
Petersham,
Richmond, Surrey.

Imposing laws on Ulster

From Mr John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative)

Sir, In support of the Headmaster of St Columb's College (September 28) may I say that the Conservative Opposition, deplored the Government's political immobility in Northern Ireland, which is encouraging extremism, have repeatedly urged that direct rule be made more human and less undemocratic.

While, however, direct rule continues and British policy is to bring in a devolved system of government, it is inexcusable for Ministers to impose by Order in Council such measures as the compulsory wearing of seat belts.

Pessimism about the American economy has, however, in the past been overdone. It may be so again. The key to a possibly brighter future will be the willingness of or otherwise of the business community to invest in new plant and machinery, for it has been the failure of this component of total demand to perform as might have been expected from previous economic cycles that explains the faltering of this recovery. So far the advance orders for capital goods are distinctly encouraging. The tax changes may produce some benefit for a range of businesses and the fall in the value of the dollar may provide some welcome stimulus to American exports.

As in the rest of the industrialized world the shock of the last recession has severely damaged the confidence of business and consumers on which growth ultimately depends. The American economy early this year showed that the damage was severe, though not fatal.

America will continue to help the recovery of the rest of the world by running a large payments deficit next year.

The unfortunate thing is that this deficit will be the counterpart of the surpluses in the OPEC countries and Japan, and will do little to reduce the deficits elsewhere.

Further, the pressure which it puts on the dollar is a strain for the world financial system, which it will not be easy to contain.

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This is the present structural organization of management itself that is so alien to the British way of working and, until it is adapted to meet the characteristics of the working people of this country, British industry will remain weak and uncompetitive. Meanwhile the unions will continue to portray themselves as the workers' representatives in the on-going "class" conflict, acquiring as much support, and therefore power, as the managers' representatives care to allow them—by default.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. HOLDEN,
11 Melton Court,
Haydock Road,
Surrey.

September 28.

From Mr J. K. V. Coutts

Sir, It seemed to me that there is a strong case for a sequel to Mr Rees-Mogg's excellent article.

His article makes it quite clear that as a result of over-manning we are in danger of pricing ourselves out of world markets, thereby effectively reducing our standard of living. However, this exceptionally clear analysis itself raises the question as to why the work force in this country is less willing to accept, as compared with, say, the work force in Holland, the necessary changes in manning levels that result from the introduction of new machinery. To put it another way, why is the management in this country less successful than our international competitors at changing the attitudes of workers to modernization schemes?

Yours faithfully,
J. R. V. COUTTS,
The Court Lodge,
Cheshfield,
Kent.

September 29.

From Mr P. Lloyd-Williams

Sir, William Rees-Mogg's article (September 28) prompted me to refer to Henry Peeling's paper-back *A History of British Trade Unionism*. I quote from page 125: "The Times published a series of articles in 1902 on 'The Crisis of British Industry', in which it was argued that trade unionism and the restrictive practices it encouraged were responsible for the weakened competitive position of British industry compared with American and German."

Plus ça change....

Yours sincerely,

PETER LLOYD-WILLIAMS,
Woolly House,
Bathampton,
Bath.

September 28.

From Mr J. R. Holden

Sir, I am amazed that such a well

informed article as yours (September 28) can still be contrived so as to miss the point.

British productivity is low because of over-manning brought about as

of the defensive (otherwise known as restrictive) practices of workers and,

in the same year our manufactured exports amounted to £213.38m.

Our imports of manufactures, on a comparable fob basis, amounted to £15.55m, leaving a surplus of £5.738m, or more than twice as

much as the surplus on "invisibles".

Thus, despite our disastrous industrial record, our manufactures are still far more important than services not only in the provision of employment, but in paying for our imports.

There is a growing band of enthusiasts (including, I regret to say, the distinguished ex-pupil, David Howell), who believe that the future of Britain lies in becoming a Great Service Economy. Unfortunately they never explain what they mean.

Do they mean tourism? I doubt

whether Britain's destiny lies in becoming the Venice of the twenty-first century, or whether our national talents are best deployed as cooks, waiters or hotel attendants. But for the moment all these places full of restrictive practices, and spend our lives pleasantly in writing, painting, singing or arranging mergers and Eurodollar loans in the City?

Yours faithfully,

NICHOLAS KALDOR,
King's College,
Cambridge.

September 21.

From Mr Paul Sieghart

Sir, Mr F. J. Chapple and Mr John

Lyon (September 27) are right to be concerned about our future energy supplies. Not only the jobs of their union members, but the quality of life of all of us, will be

become increasingly dependent, during the rest of this century and beyond, on supplies of the right kinds of energy in the right places at the right times. It is therefore good to find their voice added to the current debate.

But it would be better still if they

could address themselves to the

right issue. I cannot answer for

Mr Benn, but the letters which I

have written to you on behalf of

Justice have never suggested that

we shall not need some nuclear

power (exactly how much, no one

seems to know) to bridge the pro-

pective energy gap. Our worries

are confined to one out of several

possible nuclear fuel cycles: the

one that depends on the production

and distribution of plutonium in

commercial quantities. The Flowers

Commission—a body at least as in-

dependent and knowledgeable as

the two distinguished men

from whose enter Mr Chapple

and Mr Lyons' quote—has ex-

pressed grave disquiet about

Yours, etc.

PAUL SIEGHART,

Joint Chairman of Executive

Committee,

Justice,

2 Clement's Inn,

Strand, WC2.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Productivity of British industry

From Mr Oliver Stuchbury

Sir, In terms of the received wisdom, Mr Rees-Mogg's argument in "One Dutch man hour = two British man hours" (September 28) is so overwhelming that one wonders why these idiotic British workers do not improve their productivity.

The answer is to be found in the idiotic system which the received wisdom has produced. A system in which over a million people (a growing number of whom are young) live in unsought idleness, while the rest work for rewards which decrease spectacularly the harder they work. A system in which one growing arm of a hideously expensive bureaucracy (the supplementary benefits commission) is doing out public money which many of the exponents of the received wisdom think that another growing arm of the bureaucracy (the Inland Revenue) should take away again.

"All we have to do is double our standard of living", writes Mr Rees-Mogg, "to become as efficient as the Dutch". If doubling their standard of living means getting twice the system they've got now, the workers want none of it. They have unconventional wisdom enough to see that there is not nearly enough paid work to be done in this automated age. Until the received wisdom starts to address its mind to how to share out more sensibly what work has to be done, no one will (quite rightly) pay it any attention.

Yours faithfully,

OLIVER STUCHBURY,
Individual House,
40 South Street,
Epsom,
East Sussex.
September 28.

Irish attitudes

From Lord Kilbracken

Sir, Although Bernard Levin's ridiculous attitude (September 25) to the tragedy of Northern Ireland is deplorable, he may perhaps be forgiven for his account of it as "most people in Ireland were not interested in uniting North and South".

His article is a very good analysis of the situation as it stands.

It is clear that the received wisdom is getting it all wrong.

Yours faithfully,

J. R. KILBRACKEN,
Co Leitrim.

September 29.

A service economy

From Lord Kaldor, FBA

Foreign Report

Tales of two 'French' cities

QUEBEC

Most newcomers to Montreal are shocked by their first impressions. English-speakers from other parts of Canada, for example, having listened for so long to the complaints of their French-speaking fellow citizens about the English language oppressors, are shaken at finding French so prominent in the city.

Foreigners, too, even if they have heard the claim that Montreal is the world's second largest French-speaking city, are often surprised by the prominence of the language. The image of North America abroad seems to one of a monolithic English-speaking block with a few insignificant groups of tenacious Italians, Ukrainians, Poles, Germans, Greeks and French-Canadians maintaining folkloric cultures

much like the Welsh and the Irish.

That perception holds for most minority groups in North America but it is quickly dispelled when French-Canadians arrive in Montreal. Everyone you encounter from the man studying your passport or the boy filling your car with petrol, will be a French-speaker. The newsstands sell four vigorous French-language dailies and a plethora of weeklies and magazines.

Radio programmes are mainly in French and the two national television networks, one publicly owned and one commercially sponsored, broadcast seven days a week exclusively in French. It is said that more original television programming in French is produced in Montreal than in Paris.

Labour MP Mr Eric Moonman was struck by some of these things on a recent visit to Montreal. In an article in *The Times* recently he seemed perplexed as to why the Quebec Government would want to pass a law to ensure the supremacy of French when "with 80 per cent of the population French-speaking, the economic life of Montreal is already French."

Many Canadians, both English and French-speaking, share Mr Moonman's bewilderment, especially those who remember what Montreal was like 20 years ago. Then English speakers dominated the city and the French language and culture were moribund.

Dracoian measures to protect French and limit the spread of English in schools and businesses would have made sense then but none were taken. Today, they are not needed and yet they attract wide popular support.

Many French-Canadians, it seems, still believe their language and culture are threatened, although this is now absurd. The civilization of five million French-Canadians in Quebec could no more easily be wiped out than, say, the civilization of five million Danes.

What is unusual in the Quebec case, however, is that approximately one million English-speaking aliens live in the French-Canadians' homeland, most of them concentrated in the Montreal area. And even though they are increasingly docile, the numbers are so large that they inevitably have an effect on French-Canadian behaviour.

I caught a glimpse of this a few years ago while living in Quebec City. Its unique old world charm apart, Quebec City is a typical provincial town—like York or Bristol or Norwich—with the sole difference that it is totally French-speaking. In a population approaching half a million, fewer than 20,000 are native English-speakers and all of them speak French. You could no more function in English in Quebec City than you could function in French in York.

As in all provincial towns, its people live constantly in the shadow of the capital. And for French-Canadians the capital is Montreal.

It is difficult to get through a day in Quebec City without meeting someone who has just come from Montreal, or is about to go there or whose life is being influenced by someone in Montreal. Montreal is the centre of the French-Canadian universe just as London is the centre of the British universe.

And yet to the French-Canadian who approaches Montreal for the first time, almost as an Arab approaches Mecca, the shock and disillusion could not be more complete. The city appears, in his unbelieving eyes, English.

Of course, his first impression is wrong. But just as Mr Eric Moonman, and other visitors, are struck by the Frenchness of Montreal, so is the French-Canadian shocked by its Englishness.

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My wife and I made this discovery for ourselves on a weekend trip to Montreal. We

had been living in Quebec City for about a year and were sufficiently immersed in the community that we, too, were provoked into exclaiming about heading for the big capital.

But how shocked we were by the seeming prevalence of English in Montreal. Worse, the small encounters of everyday life were tense and psychologically fatiguing.

It was a terrible weakness and we could not seem to get back to the warmth and comfort of Quebec City.

That was two years ago. At the time I concluded that the Quebec problem was not really a Quebec problem. It was a Montreal problem. And we would have trouble in Canada until the Montreal problem was resolved. I think that is still true but I believe considerable progress is being made.

The interaction of social and economic historical currents is striking. The gradual and rural movement of Canada's national economic centre from Montreal to Toronto since the Second World War has caused high levels of unemployment in Quebec which is fuelled French-Canadian nationalism and separatist movements.

The unsettled social climate has accelerated the movement of English-speakers and the head offices they obtain, to Toronto. While exacerbating the economic situation, this has also removed many of the objects of French-Canadian resentment and thus defused social tensions.

Ian Rodger

Where they don't 'sing' without torture



Torture is such a distressful subject that there is always a temptation to dismiss it or pretend that it does not exist. Yet it in fact very much a part of the modern world, and this was brought home by the case of Dr Sheila Cassidy, who was arrested and tortured by the Chilean intelligence services in 1975.

Dr Cassidy has now written a book about her experiences in Chile, *Audacity to Believe*, published by Collins this week. She came to London from Ampleforth, where she is preparing to become a nun, to launch it, and discussed the whole episode in an interview.

The point about torture was that it was a very efficient means of interrogation, she said. Few people were able to stand up to it for long, and this meant that interrogators, whether in Chile or elsewhere, were able to get information about people's friends and contacts that they would not have got in any other way.

She quoted General Pinochet, the head of the Chilean junta, as saying of the left-wing terrorists in Chile: "Without torture, they don't sing." It's true", she said. "People don't talk unless they are tortured. But most of them do tell the truth once it starts."

In her case, she had begun by trying to lie to the interrogators in order to protect her friends. She had been strapped to the *pillory*, a structure like a bed-frame, almost as a matter of routine, twice a day, and given electric shocks. She gave false information, and the interrogators believed her at first.

But it was not long before they realized that she had been fooled. Dr Cassidy was taken back to the *pillory* and given much more brutal treatment, with the shocks coming faster and faster. "You can't think when the current is on. You're convulsing," she says. So she broke, and gave the information the interrogators were after, something that made her feel deeply ashamed afterwards.

She wonders now how much longer she would have been able to hold out if it had been a matter of protecting the life of someone to whom she was very close. In Santiago, it was a matter of priests and nuns, and she had a sense that they were protected by their position, which made her feel easier in her mind.

Dr Cassidy seems a most unlikely person to have gone through all this. A direct, outgoing and unassuming person, she freely admits that she has no interest in politics. "I've never voted" she told me.

Peter Strafford

Paying more for less

Everyone knows instinctively that a half-pound jar, tin or ramekin of food, almost always costs more than half the price of the pound size. It is accepted as a fact of life and is seldom questioned. After all, it costs as much to stick a label on a small tin as on a large one.

Yet while the principle of unequal differentials may be reasonable, and "clear", the different rates of differential are often not. In other words, it may be hard enough to work out whether Brand Y offers better value than Brand X, but it becomes much worse when the problem is to decide whether a small Y represents better value than a medium X.

The Price Commission once nibbled at the subject of the cost of small packs with its aim directed especially at small bottles of soft "mixer" drinks sold in pubs. The National Consumer Council has examined the general case more recently and has concluded that "the poor pay more".

The table shows first that there is a clear difference in the price per ounce of food

	Light packs	Heavy Packs
	oz	oz
Jar of Nescafe	1	47
Heinz Marmite	8	40
Heinz baked beans	2	18
Birds custard powder	5	24
Elsio	11	261
Average price per oz	4.5p	1.6p

Hugh Clavell

In the Loire the sense of humour is like the wine, mainly dry or medium dry.



with some white; but the wit is definitely dry.

Nevertheless, Loire wines have a very distinct family likeness.

They are not at all pretentious, but made to be drunk young, while they are at their most refreshing. The nicest description given to us was "cascadeur", which literally means 'like a waterfall'; in other words, light, carefree and refreshing.

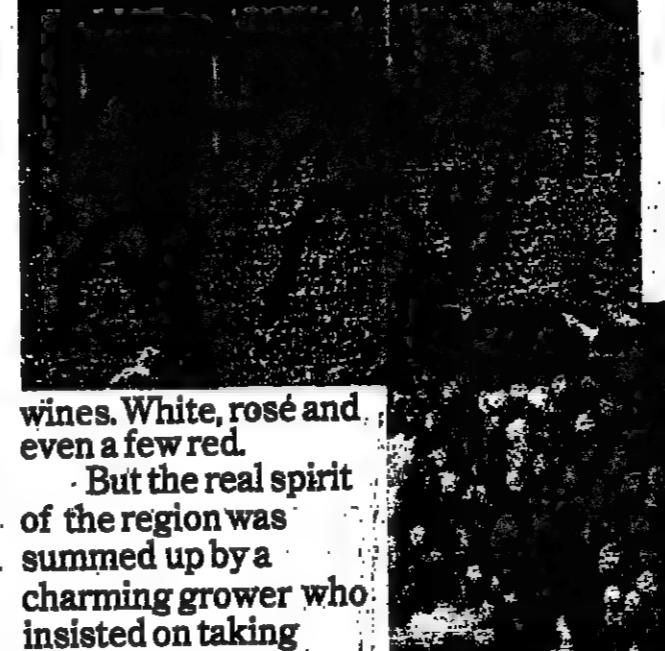
In both Muscadet and Anjou there is an air of reverence at the door of every cellar. It's a bit like going into a church. Especially as some of the cellars even have stained glass windows. Inside, the beams and barrels are often decoratively carved and the walls covered with plaques and inscriptions. Although these are not always so reverent

In one cellar we were greeted with the wine grower's prayer: Oh God, give me life for a long time, work not too often, love from time to time, but Muscadet for ever.

Not to be outdone, in Anjou we came across the legend: If drinking was a sin,

Very old vines, probably 40-50 years old.

(below) A few more hours of sunshine...



wines. White, rosé and even a few red.

But the real spirit of the region was summed up by a charming grower who insisted on taking his cap off to be photographed, even though he was completely bald.

He said "My wine is not art to be kept."

In other words, get on and drink it, and enjoy it.

And who are we, or you, to argue?



The Loire is famous for its magnificent houses and grand châteaux.

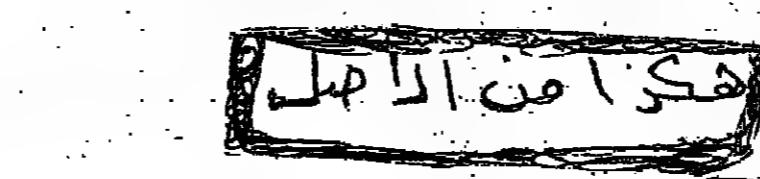
LOIRE VALLEY

APPELLATION CONTRÔLÉE



On every bottle of Loire wine you will see the words 'Appellation Contrôlée', which is France's highest designation of fine wines.

If you'd like a free colour leaflet on Appellation Contrôlée wine, please write to Food from France, 14 Berkeley Street, London W1X 5AD.



if small packs are bought instead of large ones. This leads to the paradox that those with the least money to spend must pay the most for each ounce of food.

Many doubtless realized that they were making a foolish economy, but were so short of cash that they had to buy the smallest jar if they wanted to drink coffee at all.

The case of coffee illustrates the difficulty of making quick comparisons of value between sizes of the same brand, let alone different ones. Prices in the table, recorded yesterday from a London branch of a large supermarket chain, show that the price of a one-ounce Nescafe' pays almost half as much again per ounce as the buyer of a four-ounce jar.

The difference occurs because more four-ounce jars of instant coffee are bought than one-ounce jars. This is therefore the reason for which the cost between brands in shops is more varied, and the size on which the deepest price cuts are made.

The only solution to such confusing differences in prices of food lies in unit pricing, which the Government is looking forward in some parts of the food trade. Unit pricing means that each pack carries not only its price but also the price for each ounce of 100 grams of food in it.

The table shows first that

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Food price comparison

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Average price per oz	4.5p	1.6p

Hugh Clavell

TONY WALDEN

TONI LATOR 2

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Counts of Snowdon who perished in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Major The Lord Parker and Major The Lord Windsor and Eric.

KENSINGTON PALACE September 29. The Duke of Gloucester opened the Italian Garden, Covent Garden, as part of the Environmental Programme of the London Celebrations Committee of the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

WORK HOUSE September 29. The Duke of Kent this evening attended the Silver Jubilee Gala Performance by the Kent Opera at the Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN.

The Duke of Gloucester will attend the centenary conference of the Library Association at the Festival Hall on October 4.

A memorial service for Mr H. J. C. Stevens will be held on Friday, October 28, at St Bride's, Fleet Street, at noon.

Mr N. O. Faulkner and Miss R. B. Colver

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Sir Eric and Lady Faulkner, of Chart Cottage, Chart, Sevenoaks, Kent, and Rosalind, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. W. Cooper, of Old Quay House, Walthamstow, London, and Margaret, daughter of Mr Tony White, of 46, Aubrey Ws, and Mrs John West, of Ton House, Finchley, London, N.19.

Mr A. J. J. Duthie and Miss D. M. Kaus

The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr and Mrs J. Duthie, of 8, Hillside, Bridge of Cleve, Perthshire, Scotland, and Daphne, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs J. R. B. Knox, of Kintrock, Brechin, Angus.

Mr J. C. Dowd and Miss C. A. Dowd

The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Captain C. T. Codrington, RN, Mrs Codrington, of Hartfield, East Sussex, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. G. Cooper, of Old Quay House, Walthamstow, London, and Margaret, daughter of Mr Tony White, of 46, Aubrey Ws, and Mrs John West, of Ton House, Finchley, London, N.19.

Mr A. Fowler and Miss J. F. Bond

The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs John Fowler, of Linlithgow, and Janet, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Ralph Bond, of Nairobi, Kenya.

Mr-Colonel R. N. B. Holmes and Miss M. J. McKeown

The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of Mr and Mrs John Fowler, of Linlithgow, and Janet, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Ralph Bond, of Nairobi, Kenya.

Miss R. A. H. Nunnally and Miss E. C. Woods

The engagement is announced between Captain Richard Alexander Hewitt, RN, (Royal Navy), eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alexander Hewitt, of Rutherford, SW13, and Sabed Clare, younger daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel A. D. Woods, MC, and Mrs Woods, of Millfield, Dromes, Castle Caen, SW13.

Major E. D. C. Tew, RE and Miss F. J. Rose

The engagement is announced between Edward, son of the late Captain E. D. C. Tew, RE, of 10, Theobalds Road, Islington, and Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs C. Hutchinson, Hythe End, Chiswick, Middlesex.

Mr P. J. Quinn and Miss D. M. Hetherington

The engagement is announced between Nigel, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. N. Quinn, of 11, Blakesley Avenue, London, W5, and Diana, younger daughter of Rear-Admiral and - Mrs Derek Hetherington, of Appleton, Abingdon.

Mr and Mrs F. J. Rose

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Stock Exchange Prices

Shares drift lower

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Sept. 19. Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, Oct 3. Settlement Day, Oct 11

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

Stock Exchange faces restrictive practices inquiry over commissions

Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor

Stock Exchange commissions as go before the Restrictive Practices Court. The Office of Fair Trading confirmed yesterday that it is now looking closely at the longstanding commission rate structure operated by members of The Stock Exchange.

The implications of such a move will not be lost in the stock market. Brokers and others have been keenly aware

the reverberations which followed the ending of fixed commissions in the United States in May 1975. Since then impetus in commission rates is forced. 150 American brokerage firms to merge or go out of business.

Mr Gordon Borrie, the Director General of Fair Trading, will as his next move invite the Stock Exchange to abandon its present basis of charging commissions. If the Stock Exchange refuses to do so, it would be up to the Director General to refer the case to the Restrictive Practices Court, a spokesman for the FT said.

Since Mr Robert Fell, chief executive of The Stock Exchange, said yesterday that any move to break down the present structure would be

strongly resisted, it seems possible that the matter will ultimately be decided by the court.

The time scale for all this is far from clear, however, partly because of the present workload of the Office of Fair Trading. Mr Fell indicated that it would not become a live issue at least until next year and possibly not until 1979.

Nevertheless, The Stock Exchange is already preparing its ground. It will apparently argue that the present minimum commission structure has operated since the turn of the century and on the basis that it is quite clear to the client what expertise and service is getting for his money.

But the main plank of any Stock Exchange defence, if it is needed, would be the argument that brokers were forced to adopt competitive commission rates under pressure from the Securities and Exchange Commission. The result was savage discounting by many firms and those specializing in institutional business, where the client has the power to dictate his own terms, suffered particularly badly. Discounts of up to 30 per cent on the rates ruling at May 1975, have been common.

Financial Editor, page 23

BICC bid or Dorman Smith

Nicholas Birst

BICC group, the international in-ferrous and cable company making an agreed bid and are offer a £15m for Dorman Smith the Lancashire diecast manufacturer.

Dorman Smith announced it's having bid talks a week after a sharp rise in the share. Yesterday the company's stock rose 4p to 139p in the morning, 5p to 140p in the evening. Up to 150p, factors and other major shareholders holding 52 per cent of the ordinary and 18 per cent of the A have pledged their holdings.

Firms are of one BICC, down at 135p yesterday, plus 25p cash for every Dorman Smith ordinary, and one BICC is 15p in cash for the A shares. There is a cash alternative of 151p for the ordinary, 141p for the non-voters.

The bid results partly from a desire of Mr George Hetherington, the chairman, to finish his duties. He has recently gone to live in the Isle of Man.

The whole of the board will be resigning if the takeover is successful, although the rest of management will be retained.

Dorman Smith is the market leader in moulded core circuit makers and has a dominant position in supplying switchgear for industrial and commercial use.

The acquisition is a logical step for BICC, which has been building up its industrial products division in an attempt to move downstream from the own-growth cable business. The industrial products division ready has an electrical accessories' section, which produces' parts and ancillary equipment for cabling. Now switchgear should complete the range.

EEC lowers forecast for steel output

From Michael Hornby
Brussels, Sept 29

Steel production in the EEC for the last quarter of this year is forecast at 32 million tonnes, compared with the 34.8 million tonnes predicted in June for the period.

The lower estimate reflects continued depressed demand for steel, particularly from Europe's capital goods sectors, coupled with the after-effects of heavy stockpiling in the second quarter.

The new forecast was announced here today by Herr Hans Kutschner, a senior official in charge of forward planning and market analysis.

Herr Kutschner explained that the earlier, more optimistic assessment had been based on the assumption of a recovery in overall activity in the Community towards the end of 1977 due to an upturn in the capital goods sector.

It was now clear that there was going to be no recovery, he said. The effects of weak demand had been accentuated by a high level of imports which, while running at a lower level than in the second half of last year, still accounted for some 10 per cent of Community consumption.

This is put at 28.5 million tonnes in the last quarter, compared with 29.40 million in the third.

US monitoring plan: America is to propose the setting up of a permanent international group to monitor developments in the crisis-ridden world steel industry.

The proposal will be submitted by the United States delegation during a two-day meeting in Paris of a steel committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development now in session.

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Big brewery share of market 'not exceptional'

By Patricia Tisdall

Sales concentration by a few big companies is not exceptional in the brewing industry if compared with other trades, the Brewers' Society says in a reply to criticisms by the Price Commission.

To make their point, the brewers refer to the 1968 Census of Production which reveals that in more than half the product groups listed the share of the five largest enterprises was higher than in brewing.

The brewers also say that the share of the largest brewing enterprises in Britain is not very different from that in the United States and Belgium and is markedly lower than in Denmark, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan and other countries.

In addition the brewers give a detailed reply to commission's comment that there is a high level of vertical integration.

They say that the 50,000 or so "tied" outlets that they own represent only 36 per cent of total on off-licences and these now account for only 50 per cent of the volume of beer sales, down from 60 per cent in 1967.

"Given the constraints provided by the licensing laws", they say "it is not possible to compete simply by opening more outlets". The commission is strongly criticized for ignoring the ties through registered clubs and non-brewery off-licences.

The brewers point out that, collectively, these two types of outlet alone account for 30 per cent of sales and their rate of growth far exceeds that of "tied" houses.

Since 1967 the number of licensed clubs has gone up by 14 per cent; free trade on licences have risen by 39 per cent and that of free trade restricted license premises now account for 15.5 yen stronger than in 1967.

In contrast, the number of on and off-licensed premises owned by brewers has dropped by 17 per cent.

The brewers, who have produced a weighty 40-page document backed by two substantial appendices from outside experts, have however, been able to supply much less convincing answers to the more general criticism implied by the commission that the tied houses structure is commercially inefficient.

In answering the commission's accusation that "the high profitability of brewing is masked by the lower profits earned by the rest of the business" the brewers merely repeat the arguments they aired successfully to the Monopolies Commission in 1968-69. They say it is not possible separately to evaluate their wholesaling and retailing activities.

"The basic point", they say, "is simply that the retail estate exists to provide an outlet for the brewers' products. As such it is its contribution to the overall return of the enterprise which is relevant, not an arbitrary calculation of the margins on retailing in relation to the capital employed in the tied estate".

In answering the commission's argument that "the brewers' argument on this score suggests a 'quite outmoded' approach to investment and deployment of funds

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Credit licence applications rush to beat deadline

By Margaret Stone

Last minute applications for consumer credit licences from companies which actually provide the credit, banks, hire purchase companies and retailers which operate their own loan facilities, are pouring into the Office of Fair Trading in an effort to beat the deadline for applications, which expires tonight.

Credit licences are one of the main planks of consumer protection embodied in the 1974 Consumer Credit Act. Debt collectors, credit counsellors, debt adjusters and credit reference agencies had to obtain their licences last May.

Once the process of licensing credit companies had been completed then it will be the turn of the credit brokers to apply for licences.

For this second stage the OFT has received 19,000 applications for licences and has so far granted 7,000. Applications reached their peak this week and the OFT believes the number will be slightly lower than expected.

Provided the applications have been received on time the company giving credit can continue to trade as though it were licensed until the time its application is turned down. The Director General of Fair Trading can withhold licences from anyone who he thinks is not a "fit" person. Without a licence a credit trader will be unable to enforce the credit agreement.

Another record year is under way at Associated Book Publishers. The first half has produced a jump in pre-tax profits from £771,000 in 1976 to £1.1m in turnover of £11.4m against the £10.3m. The board expects "the benefits derived from the first half to be maintained and increased marginally by further progress in the second half".

Associated Book heads for peak

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THE TIMES FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30 1977

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Turbine generating deal will bring GEC and C A Parsons together

Companies to share Drax contract

By Roger Vieilvoie
Energy Correspondent

A complex deal for dividing the £125m contract for turbine generating equipment for the controversial second stage of the Drax coal fired station in Yorkshire between C. A. Parsons and GEC will be announced today by the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB).

The executive committee of

the generating authority meets

this morning to put the final

touches to an announcement

which could result in the no

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Italcasse head resigns over charges

From John Earle
Rome, Sept 29

Signor Giuseppe Arcaini, who is at the centre of investigations into several financial scandals, has yielded to political pressures and resigned from the position of director-general of Italcasse, the central institute of Italian savings banks, which he has held for 20 years.

A former Christian Democrat deputy and junior minister, Signor Arcaini, who is 76, is president of Assobanca, the association of Italian banks, from which he is also expected to resign.

All political parties, including his own Christian Democrats, had called for Signor Arcaini's removal after formal notification by a magistrate that charges were being investigated against him in connexion with political pay-offs by oil companies and, in another case, irregularities in housing per-

mits. He has also been criticized for the granting by Italcasse of loans totalling about 247,000 lire (£165m) to the Calzogno brothers, three Roman builders.

Italcasse's books have been under inspection by the Bank of Italy. The central bank has also conducted an inspection into alleged irregularities at Banco di Napoli, the main bank in the Mezzogiorno mainland.

The financial daily *Il Sole-24 Ore* today said the inspectors had made several criticisms after ascertaining a shortfall in revenue of some 40,000m lire. "A sum such as to endanger the bank's profit and loss account."

In another development diverted towards the moralization of public life, the chamber has approved a Bill, which now goes to the Senate, laying down that the Government must consult parliament in advance of top-level appointments in public sector corporations and banks.

The Bill stipulates that candidates must present a statement of their personal assets and a copy of their latest tax return.

Meanwhile, news from New York that Exxon has signed a consent decree with the Security Exchange Commission regarding political pay-offs in foreign countries, including Italy, has led to a statement from Signor Vincenzo Cazzaniga, former Esso Italiana chairman.

He faces Italian charges concerned with the distribution of Esso funds in Italy. In his statement he maintains that the pay-offs to political parties are shown in the consent decree to have been made not on his own initiative "but on instructions by the parent company itself and with the authorization and the knowledge of its highest executives in New York".

Leyland bus and truck dispute ends

By R. W. Shakespeare

British Leyland's 9,000 workers at five big bus and truck factories in Lancashire have decided to end their two-week strike and return to work on Monday.

At meetings yesterday the strikers voted overwhelmingly in favour of a recommendation by shopfloor representatives and union officials that the strike be called off to allow negotiations with the company on a new pay deal to be completed.

The unions have now accepted management proposals that will give all of the

workers in the factories at Leyland and Chorley wage increases within the Government's 10 per cent ceiling guideline, plus an opportunity further to increase their wage packets through a "self financing productivity scheme".

Some further rationalization of shopfloor wage grades will be involved and the increase will take earnings to £5,473.25 for a basic 40 hours.

The unions appear at this stage to have abandoned for the time being their demand for a reduction in the working week

Action began on September 19 after negotiations at the Lancashire factories had turned down a management proposal of a 7.6 per cent across-the-board increase plus the additional productivity element. It now seems that the company has made some improvement in this offer.

Last night a Leyland spokesman welcomed the return to work decision. He said: "It would bring confidence to both Leyland and the National Enterprise Board in planning further financial investment at the Leyland and Chorley plants."

Robb Caledon's £5m order saves laying-off workers

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

The threat of redundancies among 1,000 workers at the shipbuilding group of Robb Caledon later this year has been averted by a £5m contract placed with the company.

Against strong competition from Germany and Japan in particular, the company has secured a contract from Associated Portland Cement for a 4,350 tons deadweight self-unloading bulk cement carrier.

The contract was vital to avert the threat of redundancies at the Dundee yard as a result of a dwindling order book.

It will provide a sufficient volume of work for the yard's labour force well into next year when the ship is due to be built.

Shortage of orders has already forced the company to reduce its labour force at its Leith yard, but like other shipbuilders, Robb Caledon hopes

it will gain some orders from the Anglo-Polish package.

Talks on the 26 vessel deal worth £130m are expected to be resumed next week, although there is increasing speculation that Britain may fail to secure all the ships which Poland wants.

Robb Caledon's success in gaining the APC contract was influenced by the fact that the company has previously built three smaller but similar ships for the group.

The new ships will be operated in the New Zealand coastal trade by the Golden Bay Cement company, an associate company of APC.

What particularly pleased Robb Caledon's negotiators was the fact that the United Kingdom price was very close to the quotations received from Japanese companies who have been involved in aggressive marketing efforts to secure new orders.

Steps taken to harmonize non-life insurance industry

By Margaret Stone

The present six United Kingdom classes of business—the statistical framework by which the industry breaks down its business—will be expanded to 17. This is basically to accommodate the differing practice of regulations governing the classification of risks and solvency margins of United Kingdom general insurers.

The regulations, which come into effect next year, bring the United Kingdom industry into line with the EEC's non-life Insurance Establishment Directive, the first major step towards a European common market in insurance.

British insurers have been expecting the regulations for several years. Both the industry and Department of Trade will undoubtedly have to adapt procedures to cope with the different systems and returns the regulations impose.

However, existing small companies which have been trading soundly for years will be exempt from these provisions and others allowed a period of grace before meeting the requirements in full.

CBI chief attacks legislative barriers to jobs

Recent laws in the employment field were deterring employers from taking on additional labour, Mr John Methven, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, said yesterday.

The Government should look closely at the negative effect of its legislation on directives on jobs, he said, a local government conference at Bournemouth. "There can be little doubt that recent laws in the employment field have created a barrier, not least a psychological one, that deters employers from taking on additional labour. Again and again I hear that the Employment Protection Act is discouraging employers from taking on more people."

Housing policy, too, could be a major barrier to increasing the mobility of labour.

Mr Methven also called for a closer understanding and cooperation with local authorities in attracting industry. "In many areas great efforts have been made to entice in industrial development... but there must be increasing emphasis on the smaller enterprise

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taking account of home loan customers' needs

From Mr J. F. Workman
Sir, Mr Griggs of the Building Societies Association (September 27) has done a service to the critics of the monolithic he represents by expressing attitudes which perhaps account for the indifference to customers' needs sometimes shown by his members.

He says borrowers "should

be able to check the interest rates, administrative costs, etc."

Yours faithfully,
J. F. WORKMAN,
45 Lower Road,
Great Amwell, Ware,
Hertfordshire.

September 28

From Mr J. H. Sand
Sir, Mr N. E. Griggs's bland defence of present home loans taxation arrangements (September 27) should not be allowed the last word.

As a borrower from one of

the largest societies I received

in June, 1976 an assessment

showing a figure of 1975-76

interest which was obviously too

low. The society's local office

gave me a higher figure over

the telephone, which I reported

to the inspector a day or two later.

In March, 1977, the inspector

wrote: "As soon as I receive

details of interest paid in the

year to April 5, 1976, I will

amend the assessment"; even

then it took until May 10 for

him to produce the amendment,

showing the figure the society

had given me nearly 11 months

previously.

This is fairly typical of what

takes place each year between

me, my society and my inspector,

and makes me wonder how much experience Mr Griggs has

as a borrower.

On the last point—Building Societies' arrangements are so

closely linked to the Revenue that one wonders why they do not align their financial

years with the tax year. Surely

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Societies' arrangements are so

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Long gilts: to tap or not to tap

The Bank of England reinforced its signal on short-term interest rate stability yesterday by once again forcing the discount houses to borrow at MLR for seven days. If that fails to produce the numbers the authorities are looking for at today's Treasury Bill tender, it looks very much as if suspension of the MLR formula would be considered.

Of rather more interest to markets today, however, will be the Bank's attitude to the long end of the gilt market, particularly after the further weakening of the dollar yesterday. Will there or will there not be a new long dated stock issue? On the one hand, the authorities should be happy to see long rates driven down further and will doubtless be afraid of risking the pointless exercise of a foreign dominated sell-out. On the other hand, they must be playing guessing games as to the appropriate long-term yield level that will produce the stability needed for smooth medium-term management of the market.

Ready Mixed Concrete

Out of the recession

Hard on the heels of Barratt Developments' report of a pickup in housing activity, Ready Mixed Concrete says the decline in United Kingdom output is levelling out. With Wimpey also saying yesterday that its order rate has ceased to decline, the construction and building sector can take some heart from this week's news.

Ready Mixed's interim figures show a 20 per cent profits improvement to £12m pretax with £8.5m coming from the home market against £7.5m last time at the operating level in spite of a 10 per cent fall in domestic volume. Moreover, there have apparently been no adverse effects since it abandoned pricing agreements.

Meanwhile, Mr Healey's hints of autumn stimulation for the economy is obviously encouraging for next year. Ready Mixed for one expects the volume graph to continue upwards.

But prospects are more uncertain for West German operations where profits fell and volume declined. But profits should be maintained for the full year at around

£7.9m, and there is more intrinsic strength than at home.

With other areas doing reasonably well this points to group profits for the year up to £28m against £22.9m. This will be combined with a markedly stronger balance sheet with the help of the new terms being offered to holders of the convertible stock. If this encourages full conversion by the end of the year net borrowings will be about £50m, half net tangible assets.

Short-term borrowings at home will be eliminated as the company seems set to come strongly out of the recession. Moreover, acquisitions must be a possibility: abroad in the concrete business and at home into other sectors.

So the shares at 125p have attractions, even after yesterday's 7p rise, with a prospective yield of 7 per cent and p/e ratio of below 7.

At the other end of the market spectrum stages should be out in force for the re-opening of South Crofty, a Cornish tin mine. A profit estimate of £2m pre-tax seems conservative, and the prospective yield of 12.5 per cent is generous. So there is something left with the issue price pitched at 50p.

However, in the absence of any positive indications from the company (and promises of reinvestment elsewhere are hardly enough) existing St Piran shareholders may not be so happy.

St Piran's after tax profits, a proportion that would have risen this year given the rise in the tin price. Adjusted for the 35 per cent float off of Crofty, Piran's earnings per share last year fell by 30 per cent, altering the historic p/e ratio on yesterday's unchanged 84p a share from 10.2 to 14.6.

St Piran shareholders are offered no preferential treatment in applying for the Crofty shares, which seems oddly hard (employees' preference could have been cut back or scrapped to accommodate such a preference) and the St Piran market that shareholders will still have 65 per cent of Crofty is totally superfluous.

There seems little St Piran shareholders can do—it takes three weeks to requisition an EGM and the offer closes next Wednesday. But after its recent strength—up 4p this week—St Piran's share price may suffer. Crofty is now the share to buy if you can get in on the ground floor.

The battle over Rule 390

More than a month after it finished hearing evidence, the United States Securities Exchange Commission, has still to give an official indication of its final word on off-floor trading, most significantly the New York Stock Exchange's Rule 390.

Under the existing schedule, Rule 390 will be repealed on January 1 and with it—if the great weight of evidence is to be believed—the death knell will be sounded for the traditional auction market system in the United States.

The rules dictated simply that any deal in a listed security must be executed on the trading floor of the NYSE and as a result the NYSE, the American Stock Exchange and stock markets in other American centres have enjoyed a quasi-monopoly in share trading.

Acting under Congressional mandate to create a national and freely competitive market, the SEC understandably sees the repeal of the current restrictions as a crucial step in ending of a monopoly situation.

In that view however it seems to stand virtually alone. As the forefront of the campaign against repeal is the United States broking community, already reeling under the effects of the ending of fixed commissions two years ago.

Having seen 150 of their number merge or go under seemingly as a direct result of increased rate competition most brokers see the repeal as simply playing into the hands of their better-heeled rivals.

Without "off-board" rules, securities firms will be able to match orders in their offices or act as dealers, buying from and selling to customers from their own inventories, as they do now for over-the-counter stocks.

Corporate chiefs, institutions, and investment clubs have swung their support behind NYSE chairman, Mr William Batten, in his fight against the SEC's plan.

They see that the effect will be to create

a situation where investors increasingly find that they have to transact business in listed stocks directly with dealers without any certainty that he is getting the best price available.

A further and perhaps even more important problem concerns the potential conflict of interest in a firm acting both as broker and dealer.

In response to the SEC's plan the NYSE only too aware of its special interest has asked only that the SEC stay its hand on the repeal until its own plans for a new National Market System can go ahead.

Under the existing schedule, Rule 390 will be repealed on January 1 and with it—if the great weight of evidence is to be believed—the death knell will be sounded for the traditional auction market system in the United States.

Under this competing qualified market-makers in competing centres—initially existing Exchanges and the National Association of Securities Dealers—would be electronically linked thus providing open access among all markets for listed securities.

Whatever the SEC's final decision the ramifications can be expected to be felt far outside the United States Securities markets—as no doubt the Stock Exchange here is fully aware given that the Office of Fair Trading seems to be hot on the heels of the SEC with regard to fixed commissions.

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Mr William Batten, chairman of the New York Stock Exchange.

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Business Diary: Cuckney ahoy

• Bywater is back

Lord Aldington leaves the Port of London after six and a half years today and the new chairman, John Cuckney, takes over on Monday in a changeover awaited by management and staff with keen, if wary, interest.

The two men could hardly be more different, apart from a common background in banking and finance. Aldington is the bluff extrovert—forceful, volatile and warm. Cuckney is more introvert—elegant, intellectual and cool. Both can be tough—as, indeed, the job requires.

Things are a lot better at the PLA now than they were two or three years ago. There was a £6.7m improvement last year from a loss of £8.4m in 1975 to one of £1.7m.

Trade this year is about 4 per cent up, thanks to aggressive marketing and a more commercial approach, and last year's financial improvement should be at least maintained.

Yet serious problems remain, the most obvious being a surplus of dockers still running at 600 to 700, of whom about 500 are either too old or unfit. An average age of about 45 is too high for the active life of a docker, and, along with shedding more existing staff, Cuckney will need to start recruiting and training London's labour force of the future.

Less obvious, but equally important, is the need to complete the transformation begun under Aldington of the Port of London from an "authority" to a commercial and operating concern—a transformation as



John Cuckney

much psychological as organizational.

After a remarkable career in both public and private sectors as banker, industrialist (he was chairman of Mersey Docks from 1970-72) and civil servant, Cuckney certainly has the right sort of background for the task.

At the weekend he flies back from Washington where he has been attending the IMF talks wearing his Crown Agents' hat (he is chairman, a job he retains).

Jim Bywater, the former chairman of the Sime Darby trading company, is in Britain and it rather looks as if he will be returning to his old specialty, engineering.

Bywater had been chief executive for two and a half years and chairman for one year when he left the Sime Darby board at the end of last year after a boardroom tussle won by the Malaysian Government-controlled Pernas Securities.

He then repaired to his holiday villa near Myrtou in the Turkish sector of Cyprus, mercifully untouched during the invasion of 1974.

His visit to Britain has partly to do with the increased number of Ford scholarship students in Tavistock tomorrow and is partly to discuss job possibilities. Bywater told Business Diary yesterday that he is having talks about one or two chairmanships that are likely to become vacant, as well as a chief executiveship, all something to do with engineering.

He was with Ford for 25 years, becoming both a director of Ford UK and second-in-command of the worldwide tractor division.

He has also called on another ex-Sime alumnus, Keith Bright, who left two months after Bywater and is now chief executive of Allied Biscuits.

At the weekend he flies back from Washington where he has been attending the IMF talks wearing his Crown Agents' hat (he is chairman, a job he retains).

Jim Bywater, the former chairman of the Sime Darby trading company, is in Britain and it rather looks as if he will be returning to his old specialty, engineering.

Bywater had been chief executive for two and a half years and chairman for one year when he left the Sime Darby board at the end of last year after a boardroom tussle won by the Malaysian Government-controlled Pernas Securities.

The National Campaign for Firework Reform and the Firework Manufacturers' Guild are

How dial-a-fact is coming closer to home

Kenneth Owen

Technology
Correspondent

One of the Post Office's technological babies is showing surprisingly rapid and healthy growth. The Viewdata concept—linking television set and telephone to provide dialled information services—is out of the laboratory and is being taken very seriously by leading organizations in the information-providing business. Next June a market trial involving 1,000 Viewdata-adapted sets will begin in London, Birmingham and Norwich.

From the general idea that a range of directories and other information sources might be made available via television screens in the home and in business the project has moved forward into firm proposals for specific services. A phased development is planned and approximate costs to the users (at each end of the information chain) are now known.

Details of progress to date emerged yesterday at a Viewdata conference in London organized by the Butler Cox consultancy in association with the Post Office. So far the corporation has invested about £5m to reach the stage of next year's market trial and about 100 information-providing organizations have already been involved in pilot trials.

For the viewer the Viewdata "page" displayed on his or her television screen will resemble the broadcast Teletext information services (the BBC's Ceefax and the IBA's Oracle), which are now accessible to those with appropriately adapted receivers. But a prime difference is that a much larger range of information, covering many subjects and intended for many different "readerships", will be stored in the Post Office's Viewdata computer near Ipswich and will be available for transmission when dialled up (via a calculator-like keypad—not the telephone dial—to be precise).

The Post Office will provide the medium, but not the message—it holds the information and communicates it to the telephone subscriber. It is the outside information-providing organizations (such as publishers, consumer organizations, travel and transport organizations, financial and business information services) which are responsible for the content.

Whatever the subject, the normal method of use will be the same: the user will be presented with a basic guide or directory to the contents of the selected "magazine" and will progressively "narrow down" via subsequent pages to the information he needs.

He will normally pay the cost of a local telephone call for the time he is connected, plus a special Viewdata charge to the information provider. There would also, of course, be the price or rental of the Viewdata-adapted television set.

To begin with, these sets are expected to sell for about £600, but it is thought that the price will drop markedly with advances in microelectronics and mass production.

By adding a coded "password" to the system, information can be supplied to particular groups of people. Agricultural Co-operation and Marketing Services, for example, is using the trial Viewdata service to provide confidential market intelligence to its members.

As well as straightforward information retrieval, Viewdata can be used for computing calculations as an alternative to conventional time-sharing computer services. A full alphanumeric keyboard (under development) would be needed for this.

Even without a full keyboard, Viewdata could be used to pass certain messages from one telephone subscriber to another. The popular example for which the Post Office clearly expects a big demand is of the "Delayed at office: Shall be on train arriving at ..." type.

Another planned service would include complete transcriptions. A user might call up a British Airways timetable, make a reservation and pay by quoting his credit card number.

As well as the 100 organizations who have been involved in providing Viewdata information in the pilot trials so far, another 50 are actively interested. Post Office speakers disclosed yesterday. About a hundred of these total were interested mainly in the residential market and the remaining 50 in specialized services for business.

Ten thousand frames of information are on the system at present and this should have increased to more than 100,000 by the start of the market trial next June. The corporation already has firm orders for 25,000 frames and is confident of filling 100,000 by Christmas.

The information providers will each pay a £100 service charge to the Post Office, plus a fee of £1 per frame per year (for a minimum of 100 frames).

The insertion and editing of data can be done in three ways: by renting an editing keyboard terminal from the Post Office at £250 a year; using the same type of terminal on Post Office premises at no charge; or using an in-house computer and passing the magnetic tape to the corporation.

The information providers will each pay a £100 service charge to the Post Office, plus a fee of £1 per frame per year (for a minimum of 100 frames).

As well as straightforward information retrieval, Viewdata can be used for computing calculations as an alternative to conventional time-sharing computer services.

On the revenue side, the charge to the domestic or business user will vary according to the particular Viewdata service. The Post Office suggests an average of 0.2p to 0.4p per frame (the charge will be based



Market trials of the Viewdata system will begin next June. Users will "dial up" pages of information which will be displayed on their television screens.

on the number of frames called up and not based on time), but the information providers have the option to increase or decrease this as they wish.

What has emerged is a likely price band from nothing (for classified advertisements and certain other services) to 2p per frame. To attract domestic users the price for the domestic services will have to be low, while the upper levels will apply more to the specialized business information services.

Providers of restricted access services will also receive revenue from membership subscriptions.

Among the systems developed during the pilot trial, Exel is aiming at extending its traditional specialist information services for the City of London to the broader business market.

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Clearly, immense new possibilities are opening up in the field of immediate-access information services. As well as genuine Viewdata-type services, a range of television "add-on" devices will bring new options (a cassette-based system was announced earlier this week) to the home and the office.

At the moment the domestic and business markets are developing together. Soon they may diverge to meet different needs. Viewdata may become one element of a "unit video" concept analogous to video audio in the home. In business use the possibilities appear virtually unlimited.

Finally, a random thought for parents of daughters who appear to spend ages on the telephone in conversation with boyfriends. Be warned: before too long, they could be calling each other up and playing chess on the Viewdata phone.

Peter Norman

Economic worries add to the problems of the Dutch

For more than four months the Dutch have been wallowing in a political crisis. Since the general election in May government in The Hague has been in the hands of a caretaker prime minister.

Whereas the government originally envisaged an 8.5 per cent rise in export volume in 1977, the figures for the first half showed no real increase compared with 1976. In response, the Dutch central planning office revised its export growth forecast for this year downwards to nil, but this target must be in doubt after the July figures, which showed a fall in exports in value terms of about 300m guilders (about £70m) to 7,844m (£1,620m) compared with July last year.

In consequence a new package of measures to stimulate the economy is expected by the middle of October whether this is a new cabinet or not.

Mr Joop den Uyl, the prime minister, has suggested that 30,000 guilders should be lopped off taxes and social security contributions next year.

Official's at the Hague finance ministry think that 2,000m to 2,500m guilders is a more likely figure, taking the form of a cut in personal taxation or social security payments or a combination of the two.

Scottish Development Agency has invested £11m in 29 firms

By Ronald Faux

A year ago the Scottish Development Agency made its first major equity investment in Ranco Motors. Since then, 29 Scottish firms, many engaged in high technology from laser manufacturers to sea food processors, have received £1m of direct investment by the agency. This was disclosed yesterday by Sir William Gray, the chairman when the SDA introduced some of its successes at a press conference in Edinburgh.

Since that first announcement, the agency finds itself the owner of the larger part of one business used for medical research by the Interesek Research Institute of Musselburgh, in which the agency has a £450,000 stake, and a substantial interest in numerous other enterprising projects which reported they were doing well in home and export markets. In some cases, it was claimed, purely Scottish interests had taken off from an original American base, and were competing healthily with American products.

Financial help has been provided in loans, equity guaran-

tees and partnerships. The largest direct investment to date has been £2m, to British Carpets of Glasgow and Cumnock, to help a modernization programme.

The agency has handled 184 requests for assistance since it was formed. Of these, 29 have been accepted, 35 are under consideration, and 120 have been withdrawn or rejected. In all, the agency has helped to secure or create 8,000 jobs.

The Small Business Division is helping to finance more than 300 firms, and advising a further 1,020. Mr David Ogilvie, head of the division, pointed out that small businesses accounted for more than nine-tenths of Scottish industry.

To date, the agency has spent some £30m of the £200m budget provided for its first five years.

£1m aid for five Welsh companies

By Patricia Tisdall

Investments amounting to nearly £1m for five companies were announced by the Welsh

Development Agency yesterday.

Further investments totalling more than £10m are under consideration by the WDA.

Mr Ian Gray, managing director of the agency, said: "Our investment activities are now taking off in a big way."

Unilever chief criticizes cuts in road maintenance

By Michael Baily

More investment in transport is vital to national economic growth, Sir David Orr, chairman of Unilever, said yesterday.

Addressing the Freight Transport Association in Eastbourne, he called on manufacturers to increase industrial investment, without taking account of the need for increased and continuing investment in transport to support that growth.

Sir David criticized the concept of an integrated transport policy which had more to do with reconciling conflicting interests than promoting greater efficiency.

He welcomed the devolutionary flavour of the recent transport White Paper but said transport had fared particularly badly in recent attempts to control public expenditure, presumably for reasons of political expediency.

Mr Hugh Featherstone, FTA director, said that uncertainty over drivers' hours was a "charade" in which a wrong decision by the EEC could force Britain unwittingly into a breach of the law.

If British industry was to stage a proper recovery, invest-

US curbs cut Japan's colour TV exports

Tokyo, Sept 29.—Japan's colour television exports in August rose slightly to 366,435 sets from 353,297 in July, but fell 13.7 per cent from August last year, according to the Electronic Industries Association.

The association attributed the August decline chiefly to a drop in the export shipments to the United States after an agreement to curb exports from July.

Exports to America fell 28.6 per cent to 173,633 in August from a year before.

Exports to Saudi Arabia rose 9.5 times to 11,118 sets from a year earlier. Those to Kuwait were up 2.6 times to 8,683, and those to the United Arab Emirates up 3.2 times to 5,098.

August colour TV output fell 16.7 per cent to 686,000 sets from 823,500 in July, and fell 21.9 per cent from August last year, the association said.

Reflecting slow domestic sales, colour TV stocks at the end of August rose to 1.16 million sets from July's 1.14 million. —Reuter.

Quarterly textile exports increase by 27pc

By Peter Hill

Industrial Correspondent

Encouraging growth in exports of textiles and clothing and a check on imports, against the background of sluggish domestic demand and depressed production levels in the second quarter of this year, was reported yesterday.

Total exports over the three-month period were 5 per cent higher in volume terms than in the corresponding period of last year and 27 per cent greater in terms of current prices.

Yarns and fabrics exports amounted to £292.2m compared with £287.7m in the previous three-month period, while clothing exports rose to £126.5m in the second quarter.

Value of imports expressed in current prices fell for the

first time since the beginning of 1975.

But the survey gave a warning that the most recent figures for imports of yarns and fabrics suggested that the second quarter's improvement was unlikely to be maintained.

Demand for household textiles fell by 13 per cent compared with the first three months of this year, while expenditure by consumers fell to its lowest level since 1975.

Levels of production of all major sectors.

The survey also noted that there was an easing in manufactured prices of textiles and clothing following sharp falls in prices paid for cotton and wool.

Fabian call for devaluation of pound by 20pc

The pound should be devalued by at least 20 per cent and the Government should pay off the IMF loan to encourage Sterling to fall, according to a Fabian Society pamphlet published yesterday.

Over-valuation of sterling has been the most important single reason for Britain's economic decline since the war, say the authors, Mr Bryan Gould, Labour MP for Southampton West, and economist Mr John Mills and Mr Shaw Stewart.

They argue that because British exports have been generally neither profitable nor competitive, the United Kingdom share of world trade has steadily dropped, as investment and productivity growth have remained consistently below those in other countries.

He said our exports were not competitive or profitable enough to give us export-led growth or sufficient investment.

The real economy was faced with high unemployment, stagnating production, falling share of world trade, rising import penetration and sluggish investment. "It is producing a decline in living standards for the people we are supposed to be representing."

The pamphlet, entitled "A Competitive Pound", says a competitive exchange rate is the best strategy for economic revival. The argument that devaluation would boost prices is "grossly exaggerated".

An effective devaluation of at least 20 per cent is needed to retrieve Britain from its present stagnation and decline, they say.

Sir Derek visits 'prolific' pit

Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board, yesterday visited the coal face of Kellingby colliery near Pontefract, where the planned output is 20,000 tons a week.

The 300-yard coal face in the Bescot seam cost £5m to equip and has three mining machines which cut and load coal from the 8ft thick seam.

After returning to the surface, Sir Derek said production was already well under way at the designed capacity of 20,000 tons a week, which would make it the first million-ton-a-year coalface in Britain.

September 1977

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Plenty of business as sellers gain upper hand

Pay settlement worries over-turnover which over the past shadowed equities for most of the session though a rally in gins-lifted prices off the bottom. The TUC's overnight opposition to Government coercion on pay brought an early markdown which was quickly followed by some light selling as reports came through of municipal workers seeking rises of up to 30 per cent.

By 11 am the FT Index had lost a full five points but markets improved thereafter as limited buying developed on the strength of sterling which at one point stood at its best level against the dollar for more than a year.

In afternoon it is leading £50,000 in Four T Engineering water filter manufacturers of Llanelli, and £30,000 to EuroPrecision, a Wrexham engineering concern.

Other investments include £20,000 in a new company, H. G. Tubes, being formed by a consortium of British, Arab and American business to restart a Llanelli tube-making business.

Further investments totalling more than £10m are under consideration by the WDA.

Mr Ian Gray, managing director of the agency, said: "Our investment activities are now taking off in a big way."

Pauls and Whites managed to hold on to a 5p gain to 113p on suggestions that this old bid story is about to come true. While this does seem to be true, Spillers is not building a share stake, and that Mr J. R. Clayton, Pauls' managing director, knows of no one, including BP, trying to take over the group. The group also seems to be doing reasonably well with profits available rising from £5.2m to £5.75m or so in the year to next March.

But by mid-afternoon prices began to drift again as the index dried up and by the close the index was 4.1 lower at 515.4.

In its early losses of half a point for longer maturities were replaced by gains of around five eighthings in a series of "further Bank" deals that were an unchanged MLR. Here, too, sterling was the spur which brought interest at the lower levels.

The implications of lower interest rates again inspired a continued demand for financial issues, but in more general terms most equity dealers see the short term as being a period of consolidation.

The two-way nature of business in the current market is working wonders for daily

reporting recently and the shares dipped another 5p to 163p, making 10p off in two days.

A further £22m-worth of property sales and the consequent strengthening of the balance sheet brought interest in Trafalgar House Investments which ended 4p to the good at 150p.

Here Higgs & Hill scored an impressive 7p rise to 85p rather than the surprise of some who thought the profits, though good, were not exceptional.

RMC was also 7p to the good, at 123p after reporting profits above most expectations.

The above were an improvement here, while an improvement in the UK side of Wimpey's return was at the bottom end of what was a wide range of forecasts and with dealers taking note of the impact of higher interest charges the shares eased 1p for a close of 79p. Tarmac continued to react to the overseas losses it

reported recently and the shares to 50p. In a better than average stores sector the pick was Guss A, which rose 10p to 345p.

Spunk & Sons, spurred by the news of talks, added another 6p to 267p, and Moran Tea closed 12p to 410p after terms worth £4m from Suva-Dowars.

Speculative demand was centred on Lafarge, up 1p to 95p

awarding a move from the parent, Manganese Bronze, which put on 6p to 48p and Marshalls Universal, which closed 14p to the good at 170p.

Investment demand was directed into commodity group GIII & Duffus and by the end of the session up 5p to 185p. Rowntree

closed 5p to 230p. This week's reports that Reed Group may be considering selling in national newspapers brought a note of uncertainty to the shares which closed 5p lower at 194p.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
	£m	£m (0.27)	per share	pence	date	total
Allied Polymer (I)	34.48 (27.93)	0.57 (0.27)	1.6 (0.29)	1.0 (2.21)	4/1	(2.21)
Anchor Chem (I)	5.81 (4.79)	0.3 (0.13)	(—)	2.03 (1.82)	11/11	(3.69)
APV Hides (I)	98.6 (83.5)	7.6 (5.4)	2.47 (21.62)	4.0 (3.5)	26/10	(10.2)
Assoc Book (I)	11.46 (10.32)	1.01 (0.77)	1.11 (3.7)	1.51 (2.1)	—	(3.59)
Auto Systems (I)	3.41 (2.86)	0.23 (0.12)	(—)	(NHL)	—	(NHL)
Brown Bros (I)	31.9 (27.8)	1.2 (0.75)	1.27 (0.81)	0.5 (0.2)	18/10	(0.9)
R. Cartwright (I)	2.41 (1.8)	0.29 (0.16)	3.86 (2.71)	1.51 (1.0)	11/11	(2.4)
Eastern Pro (I)	11.17 (6.13)	0.47 (0.35)	2.18 (1.29)	1.32 (—)	8/12	(—)
Finance & Ind (P)	0.19 (0.2)	0.01 (0.09)	2.05 (1.86)	1.0 (0.97)	—	(0.97)
James Finlay (I)	39.35 (20.29)	6.85 (2.15)	3.28 (9.7)	5.52 (7.75)	9/12	(5.5)
Land Pavillion (I)	1.61 (1.2)	0.12 (0.07)	9.54 (8.8)	2.5 (2.41)	30/11	3.87 (3.57)
FPA Cans (I)	5.57 (3.45)	0.02 (0.03)	4.0 (1.10a)	0.5 (0.5)	24/11	(1.1)
Hanger Inv (I)	18.0 (13.2)	0.53 (0.20)	(—)	(—)	—	(0.41)
Higgs & Hill (I)	56 (45)	1.55 (0.75)	9.7 (4.9)	1.98 (1.76)	1/12	(3.07)
Hinks & Htn (I)	3.8 (3.6)	0.37 (0.26)	(—)	1.5 (1.3)	4/11	(4.6)
Ldn Pavilion (I)	(—)	0.009 (0.01)	(—)	(—)	—	(12.5)
Ingall Ind (P)	3.61 (3.1)	0.25 (0.20)	2.71 (3.2)	1.14 (1.01)	25/11	1.7 (1.5)
Modern Eng (I)	3.87 (3.2)	0.42 (0.28)	(—)	1.0 (0.64)	7/11	(2.9)
Monument Secs (P)	2.61 (1.6)	0.12 (0.01)	(—)	(NHL)	—	(NHL)
N Ind Inv Tr (P)	(—)	0.08 (0.07)	4.6 (3.7)	2.7 (2.3)	10/1	4.2 (3.8)
Owen Owen (I)	36.9 (35.7)	0.58 (0.20a)	(—)	0.61 (0.55)	3/12	(2.5)
Predil Cable (I)	2.49 (34.7)	2.9 (2.1)	(—)	(—)	—	(—)
Ready Mixed (I)	265.5 (233.9)	12.0 (10.0)	(—)	2.5 (2.3)	—	(5.1)
Staritide (F)	3.7 (2.8)	0.41 (0.32)	2.2 (2.1)	—	—	3.4 (3.1)
Strong & Assoc (I)	27.1 (16.6)	1.8 (1.4)	17.3 (16.1c)	1.70 (1.33)	17/10	4.16 (3.7c)
Sw Gt Wards (I)	4.3 (3.5)					

The Application List for the ordinary shares now offered for sale will open at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 5th October, 1977 and will close on the same day.

A copy of this Offer for Sale, having attached thereto the documents specified below, has been delivered to the Registrar of Companies for registration.

The ordinary shares in the capital of the Company now offered for sale rank in full for all dividends hereafter declared or paid on the ordinary share capital of the Company.

This document contains particulars given in compliance with the regulations of the Council of the Stock Exchange for the purpose of giving information to the public with regard to the Company. The directors of the Company collectively and individually accept full responsibility for the accuracy of the information given and confirm, having made all reasonable enquiries, that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, there are no other facts the omission of which would make any statement herein misleading.

South Crofty, Limited

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Acts 1862 to 1900. Registered in England No. 85550)

Offer for Sale by Joseph Sebag & Co.

of 5,250,000 ordinary shares of 10p each at 50p per share payable in full on application

1 Share Capital and Indebtedness

1.1 SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised £ Issued £
2,000,000 divided into 20,000,000 ordinary shares of 10p each 1,500,000

1.2 INDEBTEDNESS

As at 14th September, 1977, the Company and its subsidiary, Great Western Ores, Limited ("Great Western Ores"), had secured borrowings of £150,000, in respect of which the Company has undertaken to indemnify Saint Piran Limited against any liability under a guarantee executed in favour of the Secretary of State for Industry, and to purchase commitments of £86,723. The Company has created a fixed and floating charge in favour of its bankers to secure borrowings from time to time, of which none existed at that date. Apart therefrom, and from inter-company liabilities, neither the Company nor Great Western Ores had outstanding at that date any debentures, mortgages, charges, loan capital, hire purchase commitments, bank overdrafts, liabilities under acceptances, trade bills or acceptance credits or other similar indebtedness, or any guarantees or other material contingent liabilities.

2 Directors and other Parties

DIRECTORS

Peter Carstairs Buchanan OBE MCTD DL (Chairman)
Roswynn, Lelant, St Ives, Cornwall TR16 3AY
Gerald Greatorex Penfylly MBE ACSM CEng FIMM (Managing Director)
Env, West Park, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 3AJ

James Benjamin Hooper ACSM
Curlew, Budnick Hill, Perranporth, Cornwall TR8 0AA

Henry Ramon Montagu Heddle ACSM CEng FIMM

29 St Nicholas Court, St Ives, Cornwall TR26 2SZ

Peter Brian Adie BA

13 Hill Street, Bayswater Square, London W1X 8DS

SECRETARY AND REGISTERED OFFICE

William David Kneebone ACCA

Pool, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 3GH

BANKERS

Barclays Bank Limited

Ager Road, Illogan Highway, Pool, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 3EB

BROKERS TO THE COMPANY

Joseph Sebag & Co.

P O Box 511, Bucklerside House, 3 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 8DX and The Stock Exchange

AUDITORS AND REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS

Turquane Barton Mayhew & Co., Chartered Accountants

Lyon House, 7 Tavistock Square, London WC1R 8LS

Southernhay House, 36 Southernhay East, Exeter EX1 1LF

SOLICITORS TO THE COMPANY AND SAINT PIRAN LIMITED

Titmuss, Belcher & Webb

2 Sessions Inn, London EC4Y 1LT

SOLICITORS TO THE COMPANY

Stephens & Scown

3 Cross Lane, St Austell, Cornwall PL12 5AX

SOLICITORS TO THE OFFER

Slaughter and May

35 Savile Row, London EC2V 8DB

GEOLOGICAL AND MINING CONSULTANTS

Mackay and Schenckmann Limited

Lincoln House, 296/302 High Holborn, London WC1V 7JJ

RECEIVING BANKERS

National Westminster Bank Limited

New Issues Department, P O Box No. 79, Diaper's Gardens,

12 Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2P 2BD

REGISTRARS AND TRANSFER OFFICE

National Westminster Bank Limited

Registrar's Department, P O Box 82, National Westminster Court,

37 Broad Street, Bristol BS9 7NA

3 Chairman's Letter

The following is a copy of a letter addressed to Joseph Sebag & Co. ("Sebag") by Mr. P. C. Buchanan, the Chairman of the Company:

29th September, 1977

The Directors, Joseph Sebag & Co.

Gentlemen:

In connection with your Offer for Sale of 5,250,000 ordinary shares of 10p each in the capital of South Crofty, Limited ("the Company"), I have pleasure in providing you with the following information concerning the Company and its subsidiary, Great Western Ores, Limited ("Great Western Ores"), which are together referred to as "the Group". These shares represent 35 per cent of the issued share capital of the Company, which is currently a wholly owned subsidiary of Saint Piran Limited ("Saint Piran"), a public company, the share capital of which is listed on The Stock Exchange. Saint Piran has confirmed that it is its intention to retain the balance of the issued share capital of the Company.

3.1 ACTIVITIES

The Group owns and operates the South Crofty mine ("South Crofty") at Redruth, Cornwall, and the Wheal Pendavore mine ("Pendavore") at Camborne, Cornwall. Both mines produce tin ore which is upgraded at the mill at South Crofty ("the Mill") for sale as tin concentrate.

Tin mining has long been a tradition in Cornwall. However, techniques for the production of tin have undergone continual technological changes. During the last ten years the Group has invested over £4.5 million to increase productivity underground and to improve recovery and capacity in the Mill. It is interesting to note that, with approximately the same number of employees, the Group's output of tin metal has risen over the last seventy years from 120 tonnes in its first year of operation to 1,545 tonnes in the year ended 31st March, 1977. Investment in modern technology has resulted in South Crofty being one of the largest underground tin mines in the world. It is with confidence that the Group is planning further capital investment for the next three years, which will be financed within the Group's own resources. Specific projects under review include deepening the workings of both South Crofty and Pendavore with the aim of a further increase in the level of production, the installation of a system for monitoring and improving the recovery of tin in the Mill, and the erection of a new engineering workshop to provide modern facilities for the maintenance of the complex machinery necessary for today's mining methods.

The Group's production of high grade tin concentrate is sold under a contract which is renegotiated annually. The current contract for the sale of all the Group's high grade tin concentrate, which constitutes about 96 per cent of the Group's tin production, was awarded to Amalgamated Metal Corporation AG, of Switzerland, a company of international standing in the mining industry. This contract provides for regular prompt payments to the Group for weekly shipments of concentrate; the price being tied to the prevailing lowest of the official four prices for standard tin metal, quoted on the London Metal Exchange ("LME").

3.2 HISTORY

Although tin has been mined in Cornwall since before Roman times, underground mining did not begin until the Middle Ages, when the mines were usually no more than shallow pits dug where the tin bearing veins (lodes) were found near the surface. At the beginning of the eighteenth century, mining for copper commenced and soon became the principal industry in Cornwall, reaching its peak in the middle of the nineteenth century.

At this time there was a very important discovery of a tin zone beneath the copper zone, which was then nearly worked out, in the Dolcoath copper mine, later to become Cornwall's deepest and richest tin mine. Smaller discoveries were made at East Pool, Cook's Kitchen, and other mines, some of which are now owned by the Group. Copper production had almost ceased by the mid-1880's, but by then

Cornwall was as well known for its deep level tin mining as it had been for copper.

This resurgence of Cornish tin mining prompted the formation of the Company on 16th July, 1906 as a public company for the purpose of acquiring the mine known as South Wheal Crofty which was subsequently amalgamated with other adjacent mines.

On 15th June, 1967, Siamese Tin Syndicate Limited ("Siamese Tin") made an offer for all the issued share capital of the Company which it did not already own. This offer was accepted, the listing of the Company's shares on The Stock Exchange was cancelled and the Company became a wholly owned subsidiary of Siamese Tin.

A Scheme of Arrangement was effected on 31st July, 1970 under Section 206 of the Companies Act, 1948, whereby Saint Piran, which at that time was called St. Piran Mining Company Limited, acquired all the issued share capital of Siamese Tin. Subsequently the Company became a directly owned subsidiary of Saint Piran.

On 29th May, 1973, Great Western Ores, a previously dormant and wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, purchased the mining leases, the fixed assets and certain other assets of Pendavore.

Since that date there has been no significant change in the capital structure or activities of the Group, save for the capital reorganisation, particulars of which are set out under Statutory and General Information.

3.3 PROPERTY

Details of the mines owned by the Group are as set out below:



For the purposes of illustration only.

Map Ref.	Site	Area (acres)	Tenure	Payments
1	South Crofty	527	Freehold	Nil
2	North and South	151	60 years	300
3	Rockside and Seaton	52	80 years*	112.50
4	Cook's Kitchen	52	80 years*	112.50
5	South Crofty and Wheal Tresavean	52	80 years*	112.50
6	East Seaton	41	80 years*	112.50
7	Pendavore	44	80 years*	112.50
8	South Crofty	77	80 years*	112.50
9	Pendavore	21	80 years*	112.50
10	East Pool	452	Freehold	Nil
11	Ager	324	60 years	50

Notes: 1. Royalties are calculated on the turnover attributable to each mining lease. Minimum rents are payable only when and to the extent that such rents exceed the royalty payable.

2. The Company owns 18 acres of nearby surface land not included in the above table, not essential to the mining operations.

3. The Company has been granted an option by South Crofty Properties Limited to acquire certain land adjacent to the Group's properties at an aggregate consideration equal to £1,02,399.

4. The Company is also liable for surface and wayleave rent and royalties with respect to ancillary operations, which amounted to £2,300 for the quarter ended in June, 1977.

5. There are certain imperfections to the title of the land marked*, but the directors consider that these have no material effect on the operations of the Group.



For the purposes of illustration only.

Map Ref.	Site	Area (acres)	Tenure	Payments
1	Pendavore (Farsley)	108	21 years	850
2*	Pendavore	1,238	42 years	1,900
3	Pendavore (Farsley)	226	24 years	200
3 (part only)	Wheal Tresavean	28	from 1.4.87	Nil
4	Cleator	1,717	42 years	4,300
5	Grawville	198	21 years	190
6	Clystern	52	42 years	180
7	Trelawne	92	21 years	117

Notes: 1. Royalties are calculated on the turnover attributable to each mining lease. Minimum rents are payable only when and to the extent that such rents exceed the royalty payable.

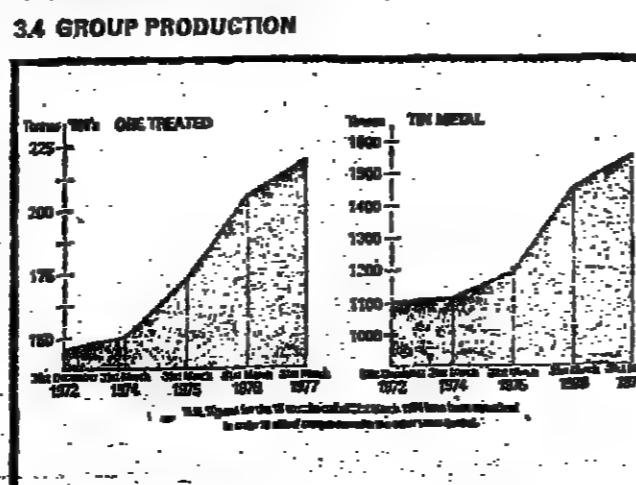
2. A lease is currently being negotiated for 110 acres of river bed and adjacent land for a term of 21 years from 1st January, 1977 at a minimum rent of £3,000 per annum, less royalties at 4%.

3. Great Western Ores is also liable for wayleave rent and royalties with respect to ancillary operations, which amounted to £345 for the quarter ended in June, 1977.

4. With regard to the land cross-hatched on the map above, the lease extends only to an unbridged half share.

5. There are certain imperfections to the title of the land marked*, but the directors consider that these have no material effect on the operations of the Group.

3.4 GROUP PRODUCTION



3.5 ORE RESERVES

As at 31st March, 1977, the Group's ore reserves, excluding the Group's stock of broken ore, according to the report of Mackay and Schenckmann Limited, were as follows:-

1. Demonstrated reserves

Measured ore 317,834 tonnes of tin ore with an average grade of 1.98%Sn.

Indicated ore 676,165 tonnes of tin ore with an average grade of 1.69%Sn.

The ITC receives compulsory contributions from the producer countries and voluntary contributions from consumer countries. The Buffer Stock Manager buys tin into his stockpile to support the floor price and sells tin when the price rises, to defend the ceiling price. At present the tin metal price is substantially above the buffer stock price ranges of Malaysian ringgit 1,200-1,500 per picul (equivalent to £4,636-£5,795 per tonne at an exchange rate of 4.28 ringgit to £1). Therefore the ITC currently has little, if any, stocks of tin and its powers to restrict fluctuations in the price of tin are thereby limited.

As a last resort, the ITC can require export controls to be imposed. If the floor price is severely threatened, thus limiting the production of tin metal by producer countries, the United Kingdom does not qualify as a producer country and tin restrictions, if imposed, would not materially affect the Group's production or sales.

The other major organisation which influences the tin metal price is the GSA, the controlling authority for American stockpiled materials, but it can sell tin only with the approval of Congress. During the course of the Korean War, the GSA accumulated about 350,000 tonnes of tin metal stocks, of which during the last 14 years over 145,000 tonnes have been sold. By virtue of its ability to release further stocks of tin metal on the world markets, the GSA may be able in the short term to regulate tin metal prices to a greater extent than the ITC.

From the statistical viewpoint, tin is in short supply. Production and consumption statistics show that since 1960 there has been a shortfall in production of a total of 218,000 tonnes of tin metal. However sales by the GSA have lessened the effect of the shortfall and have been a major influence on tin metal prices during the period.

It is believed that the deficit between supply and demand will continue. The effect of continuing deficits is likely to lead to higher tin prices on world markets, which will be to the benefit of the Group. Though in the past the Group has sold tin on the forward market, this practice was discontinued in December, 1976, and it is not now the Group's policy to make forward sales.

3.11 PROFITS AND DIVIDENDS

As you will see from section 5 of the Accountants' Report, the profits of the Group have risen substantially. The Group is currently experiencing favourable trading conditions. The directors have made the following principal assumptions in preparing their profit forecast for the year ending 31st March, 1978:

1. The Group's present composition, management and commercial and accounting policies will remain unchanged.

2. There will be no material changes in legislation or regulations affecting the Group's activities or the markets within which it operates or in the bases or rates of taxation.

3. No major stoppages caused by mechanical failure or labour disputes will significantly affect production.

4. Adequate provision has been made for both known and anticipated increases in labour and material costs.

5. There will be no external restriction on the output and sales of tin concentrate.

6. Payability (as referred to in the notes to 3.6) will be not less than 35%.

7. There will be no forward sales of tin.

8. The average price of tin metal from 1st September, 1977 which determines the price of concentrates produced by the Group, will be £5,800 per tonne.

On the basis of the above the directors forecast that, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, the profits of the Group attributable to shareholders in the Company for the year ending 31st March, 1978 will be not less than £2,000,000, before taxation and extraordinary items. It is therefore the directors' intention to declare an interim dividend for the year ending 31st March, 1978 of 1.65p per share (16.5 per cent) payable in or about February 1978 and to recommend a final dividend for the year of 2.475p per share (24.75 per cent) payable in or about August 1978 which, together with the associated tax credits, assuming 'Act at 34 per cent, would be equivalent to a gross distribution of 6.25p per share (62.5 per cent).

On the above basis the dividend would be covered 1.55 times by profits after taxation and, at the offer price of 50p per share, the ordinary shares being offered for sale would show a dividend yield of 12.5 per cent.

Yours faithfully,
P. C. BUCHANAN, Chairman

4 Geological and Mining Consultants' Report

The following is a copy of a report from Mackay and Schnellmann Limited, geological and mining consultants.

Lincoln House, 288/302, High Holborn London WC1V 7JJ

The Directors, South Crofty, Limited

The Directors, Joseph Sabag & Co.

28th September, 1977

Gentlemen

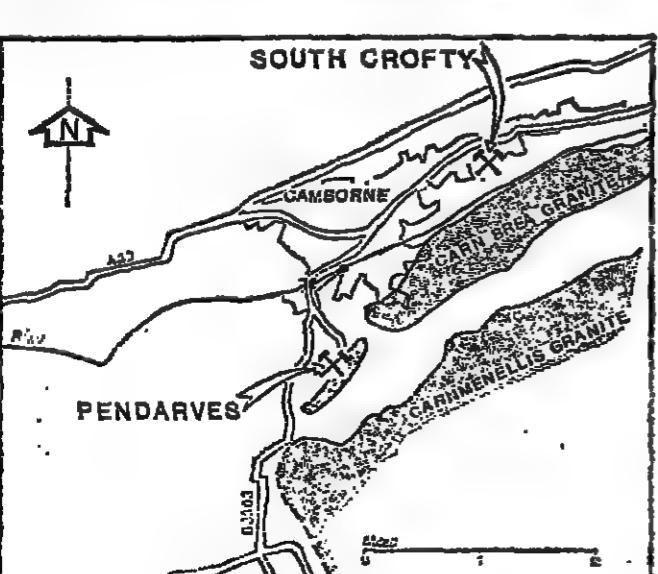
You have instructed us to report on the mining operations at South Crofty and Pendavies.

1.01 In the course of the preparation of this report, we have visited the mines at South Crofty and Pendavies and we have been afforded full access to all the books and records kept of the operations conducted there. We have also inspected all those aspects of the operations which we considered relevant from the geological work through to the production of tin concentrates, including reference to the essential component costs through to the sale of the concentrate. We have also carried out such check sampling as we have considered necessary.

2.00 GENERAL

2.10 Location, History and Geology

2.11 The properties which are the subject of this report are known as South Crofty Mine which is situated at Redruth, Cornwall, and Wheal Pendavies Mine which is situated at Camborne, Cornwall.



2.12 South Crofty has been in production as a tin mine since the last century. There has been a mine at Pendavies since about the same date, although the present shaft and operations are relatively new, having commenced production in 1967.

2.13 South Crofty and Pendavies lie respectively within the northern margins of the Cam Brea and Carnmenellis granites (Figure 1) in Cornwall.

2.20 Mineralisation

2.21 Cassiterite and wolframite, which are tin and tungsten bearing minerals respectively, are to be found at South Crofty and Wheal Pendavies in a series of subparallel high dipping lode structures on an east-north-east strike traversing both the granites and country rocks, which are locally known as 'killas'. A series of north-north-west striking cross courses are also present but are generally barren of economic mineralisation.

2.22 At South Crofty there are some twenty lodes which are known to exist, but at Pendavies there are two main lodes which are worked.

2.23 The mineralogy of South Crofty and the mineralogy of Pendavies are similar; any significant differences are caused by the effect of weathering at Pendavies. Gangue and associated minerals in the mines include quartz, tourmaline, chlorite, haematite, chalcocite, arsenopyrite, fluorite and pyrite.

2.30 Sampling

2.31 At both mines chip samples are taken at regular intervals in the development headings and backs of stopes. At South Crofty the heading sampling interval is 3 metres whilst at Pendavies a 2 metre interval is normal. At each sampling location the different rock types are sampled separately.

2.32 After crushing and splitting, the samples are analysed with a portable isotope fluorescence instrument, by atomic absorption spectrometry or by wet chemical methods in the South Crofty laboratory. Analysis of individual samples by more than one method maintains a continuous check on the results.

2.40 Reserves

2.41 Underground sampling results are the basis on which reserves are calculated by accepted methods of the mining industry. Unworked blocks are based on samples taken from development headings, whilst partially stopped-out blocks take note of stoppage samples.

2.42 Demonstrated reserves

Measured ore:—317,834 tonnes of tin ore with an average grade of 1.96%Sn. There is a 95% probability that the actual tonnage of tin ore lies within limits of plus or minus 6.3% and that the actual grade lies within limits of plus or minus 8.2%.

Indicated ore:—676,765 tonnes of tin ore with an average grade of 1.69%Sn.

2.43 In addition there is *Inferred* ore of the order of 1,250,000 tonnes. This is not included in the *Demonstrated* reserves. At South Crofty the *Inferred* ore, apart from a small block above the 260 fathom level, is assumed to lie in a block below the 360 fathom level between 300 metres south and 600 metres north of Robinson's Shaft, to a depth of 145 metres, over a strike length of 1,650 metres. At Pendavies the *Inferred* ore is assumed to lie in a rectangular block below the 5 level to a depth of 121 metres, over a strike length of 2,050 metres.

2.44 The above terms *Measured*, *Indicated*, *Demonstrated* and *Inferred* are used according to the United States Bureau of Mines' internationally accepted classification of reserves, which defines them as follows:

Measured—Reserves or resources for which tonnage is computed from dimensions revealed in outcrops, trenches, workings, and drill holes and for which the grade is computed from the results of detailed sampling. The sites for inspection, sampling, and measurement are spaced so closely and the geologic character is so well defined that size, shape, and mineral content are well established. The computed tonnage and grade are judged to be accurate within limits which are stated, and no such limit is judged to be different from the computed tonnage or grade by more than 20 percent.

Indicated—Reserves or resources for which tonnage and grade are computed partly from specific measurements, samples, or production data and partly from projection for a reasonable distance on geologic evidence. The sites available for inspection, measurement, and sampling are too widely or otherwise inappropriately spaced to permit the mineral bodies to be outlined completely or the grade established throughout.

Demonstrated—A collective term for the sum of *measured* and *indicated* reserves or resources.

Inferred—Reserves or resources for which quantitative estimates are based largely on broad knowledge of the geologic character of the deposit and for which there are few, if any, samples or measurements. The estimates are based on an assumed continuity or repetition, of which there is geologic evidence; this evidence may include comparison with deposits of similar type. Bodies that are completely concealed may be included if there is specific geologic evidence of their presence. Estimates of *inferred* reserves or resources should include a statement of the specific limits within which the *inferred* material may lie.

2.45 In our opinion, the economic life of South Crofty and Pendavies is not restricted by the time which will be taken to extract the *Demonstrated* reserves. It is common for such underground lode mines to have a wholly owned subsidiary of Saint Piran Limited ("Saint Piran") and Great Western Ores has been a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company.

3. The information set out below is based on the audited accounts of the Company and Great Western Ores, hereinafter called "the Group", after making such adjustments as we consider appropriate. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, including the revaluation of certain fixed assets, and in accordance with the standards approved by the accountancy bodies currently in force, with the exception that stocks of tin concentrate, as stated in 4 (c) below, are valued by reference to subsequent net sales price. Whilst this method of valuing stocks is not in accordance with the relevant standard accounting practice, the directors are of the opinion that it is preferable to continue the previous practice having regard to the reasons given in 4 (c) below; we concur with this view. In our opinion the information given, under the accounting convention stated above, a true and fair view of the profits and losses and source and application of funds of the Group for the five years and three months ended 31st March, 1977 and of the state of affairs of the Company at 31st March, 1977 and of the Group at 31st December, 1971 and 1972 and at 31st March for each of the years 1974 to 1977.

2.46 The history, geology and mineralisation of the mineral province of which South Crofty and Pendavies form a part justify a projection of a working life of at least ten years and probably longer.

1.00 MINING

3.10 Access

3.11 At South Crofty, ore and waste are hoisted from the underground crushing plant through Cook's Shaft in skips to the surface. Robinson's Shaft is used for carrying men and materials. Two other main shafts serve merely for ventilation.

3.12 Pendavies is served by Simons' Shaft, one compartment of which is used for hoisting of skips containing ore and another for men, materials and cars of waste rock. A second access provides ventilation and an emergency exit.

3.20 Development

3.21 Cross-cuts have been driven from the shafts across the veins of tin bearing mineral along which development headings and haulages have been driven. At South Crofty, there are currently six working levels, the lowest of which is at 380 fathoms below datum. A sub-vertical shaft is projected from the 360 down to the 440 fathom level.

3.22 Pendavies has six working levels, the lowest of which is at 280 metres below datum. The deepening of the shaft to approximately 370 metres below datum is under consideration.

3.30 Stoping

3.31 Ore is extracted by the methods known as overhand and underhand shrinkage stoping, except where circumstances permit the use of a long hole drilling method. Minimum stoping width is 1 metre.

3.32 A production of 242,000 tonnes run of mine ore per year is projected by 1981 from South Crofty. In the absence of a decision to deepen the shaft, a production of 38,000 tonnes run of mine ore per year is projected at Pendavies for the period during which 6 level is under development. In addition, tin bearing material is recovered from tailings and is fed back to the mill.

3.40 Dilution and Mining Recovery

3.41 Dilution due to overstepping is estimated to be 20-25%.

3.42 Unmined pillars will give a mining recovery of approximately 88%.

3.50 Underground Transport and Hoisting

3.51 Ore at South Crofty is drawn from the stopes via chutes (or dropwells) and hauled by locomotive drawn mine cars to the ore/waste pass system whence it gravitates to the 360 and 380 underground crusher levels.

3.52 Development ore is loaded in to cars and also transported to the crusher by the ore pass system. Where it cannot be stowed in old workings, waste is for the most part similarly transported and crushed.

3.53 The crushed material is raised in 6 tonne skips loaded from 6 tonne measuring pockets.

3.54 At Pendavies the ore is raised in a 5 tonne skip from 117m and 245m below collar level and crushed on the surface, whilst waste is hoisted in mine cars in the cage.

3.60 Capital Projects

3.61 Apart from improvement and replacement of plant and machinery, the major capital project is the projected sub-vertical shaft at South Crofty (paragraph 3.21 above), for which preparation is in hand and which should be completed within two years.

3.70 Pumping

3.71 Water enters the South Crofty workings at a rate of approximately 1,500 gallons per minute (gpm). At Pendavies the rate varies from about 500 to 1,100 gpm.

3.72 The pumping capacity at South Crofty is about 2,800 gpm and at Pendavies about 1,800 gpm.

4.00 MILLING

4.01 Broadly speaking the process scheme is gravity concentration of an orthodox type for tin ores i.e. table concentration with primary heavy medium separation treatment ahead of the tables to preconcentrate a major fraction of the ore and reject a low grade tailing in as large a percentage of the total weight as possible.

4.02 For the year ended 31st March, 1977—

Millhead grade averaged 0.97%Sn.

Concentrate grades ran 55.21%Sn and 17.35%Sn for high and low grade concentrates respectively.

The mill recovered an average of 71.62% of the tin contained in the ore fed to the mill.

4.03 The mill comprises three discrete circuits which are considered to provide a high degree of security against stoppages due to excessive maintenance work or breakdowns.

5.00 SERVICES

5.01 Electric power is supplied from the national grid by two separate points of supply. A stand-by generator is to be installed shortly to assist in personnel in emergencies.

5.02 An adequate compressed air supply is available, a new plant having been installed in 1974.

5.03 Process water is drawn from underground workings and nearby streams.

6.00 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING

6.01 At the beginning of each financial year, a detailed budget for the coming twelve month period is produced, showing projected production, costs, capital expenditure and cash flow.

6.02 Each month the Company prepares statistics comparing actual performances with budgeted figures, and a monthly financial statement also is prepared to analyse actual costs against budgeted costs.

7.00 SMELTER CONTRACTS

7.01 The greater part of the tin produced is currently sold as a high grade concentrate to Amalgamated Metal Corporation AG, Zug, Switzerland under a contract renegotiated annually.

7.02 Low grade concentrates are sold to Copper Pass & Sun Limited under a contract which is subject to more frequent review.

Yours faithfully

MACKAY AND SCHNELLMANN LIMITED

M. REYNOLDS

Director

5 Accountants' Report

The following is a copy of a report from Turquand Barton Mayhew & Co., Chartered Accountants, the auditors of the Company and reporting accountants.

Lyon House
7 Tavistock Square
London WC1H 9LS

The Directors

South Crofty, Limited

BALANCE SHEETS CONTINUED

NOTES: (a) Revenue profits/(losses) retained by the Group and other amounts added to or deducted from reserves are: Reserves and undistributed profits at beginning of period Retained profits/(losses) as adjusted for the period as reported in (b) above (Change) credits which will not arise in future less taxation (see below) Surplus on revaluation of mining properties Reserves and undistributed profits at end of period

	31.12.72 £'000	31.3.74 £'000	31.3.75 £'000	31.3.76 £'000	31.3.77 £'000
518	493	478	649	2,600	
(37)	225	277	95	337	
12	(240)	(108)	(22)	(20)	
			1,678	4,008	
493	478	649	2,600	6,917	

Since the adjustments described in Notes 5 (a) (i) and (ii) relate to transactions which have already taken place and cannot thus be written back, it is not appropriate to incorporate them in the Balance Sheets and Source and Application of Funds statements; the adjustment to depreciation of mining properties for the year ended 31st March, 1977, described in Note 5 (e), is reflected in a decrease of £82,000 in the surplus on valuation of mining properties at 31st March, 1977.

(b) At 31st March, 1977, the deferred taxation balance of the Company and the Group was made up as follows:

Fixed asset allowances	£'000	Stock relief	£'000	Less: Advance corporation tax	£'000
509		355			
264		35			
	829				

(d) Fixed assets are reported at cost or valuation less accumulated depreciation as follows:

The Company		The Group					
	£'000	31.12.71 £'000	31.12.72 £'000	31.3.74 £'000	31.3.75 £'000	31.3.76 £'000	31.3.77 £'000
MINING PROPERTIES							
Cost	1,185	684	763	593	1,100	1,306	1,837
Aggregate depreciation on cost	5,886	(386)	(480)	(700)	(818)	(1,005)	(1,431)
Surplus on valuation 1976 and 1977	6,200						5,886
Net book value		298	283	293	282	2,179	6,352
BUILDINGS							
Cost	140	86	87	94	108	129	140
Aggregate depreciation	(84)	(55)	(60)	(65)	(70)	(76)	(84)
Net book value	56	31	27	29	38	53	58
PLANT							
Cost	3,133	2,318	2,392	2,516	2,698	2,975	3,243
Aggregate depreciation	(1,457)	(867)	(822)	(1,021)	(1,120)	(1,323)	(1,517)
Net book value	1,676	1,501	1,570	1,485	1,578	1,602	1,726
PROSPECTING IN EIRE							
Cost	85	65	65	65	65	65	65
Aggregate depreciation	(85)						
Net book value	0	65	65	65	65	65	65
DEFERRED REVENUE EXPENDITURE							
Cost							
Aggregate amortisation							
Net book value							
Fixed assets of the Company at valuation (see below)							
Fixed assets of Great Western Ores at cost less depreciation							
	7,838						
	7,838						
	7,838						

The mining operations of the Company were valued by Mackay and Schenmann Limited on 14th June, 1976 and 13th June, 1977, and these valuations are reflected in the balance sheets at 31st March, 1976 and 1977 respectively. The valuations were made on the basis of existing use as a going concern and were based on 10 year discounted cash flows, using the following rates of return:

14th June, 1976	13th June, 1977	£/tonne	Valuation
4,000	5,800	3,728	7,833

The "mining operations" comprise the whole of the fixed assets of the Company and these valuations have been reflected in the figures reported above by setting the buildings and plant, which form part of the mining

operations, at cost less depreciation and allocating the balance of the valuations to mining properties.

(e) Investment in Great Western Ores at 31st March, 1977 was:

Shares at cost, less amounts written off	Amounts receivable (including loan £100,000)	£'000
		60
		181

241

(f) Capital commitments at 31st March, 1977 were:

	The Group	The Company
Contracted for but not provided	158	104
Authorised but not under contract	120	100

2,141

7. SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS

Year ended	16 months ended	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
31.12.72 £'000	31.3.74 £'000	31.3.75 £'000	31.3.76 £'000	31.3.77 £'000	
505	383	131	1,538		
(414)	(184)	(48)	(88)		
(65)	104				
198	238	285	371	564	
119	384	588	487	2,058	
220	14	22	137	108	
150					
339	378	780	584	2,141	
APPLICATION OF FUNDS					
Purchases of fixed assets less disposals	153	401	508	987	
Dividends paid		40	2	488	
Taxation paid (recovered)	(124)	(12)	1	10	
	29	429	508	1,400	
	310	381	331	75	561
INCREASE IN WORKING CAPITAL					
Increase (decrease) in stocks and stores	(3)	184	38	135	868
Increase (decrease) in debtors	(5)	617	(458)	83	(257)
Increase (decrease) in balances with Saint Piran and other debtors	163	(14)	482	271	(81)
Decrease (increase) in creditors	68	(259)	146	(279)	(433)
Decrease (increase) in net liquid funds	54	(473)	116	(137)	554
Decrease (increase) in bank overdraft					
	310	38	331	75	561

8. SUBSEQUENT CHANGES IN SHARE CAPITAL AND RESERVES

Since 31st March, 1977 the capital structure and reserves of the Company have been reorganized as set out under Statutory and General Information (6.1). As a result of this reorganization, part of the share capital of the Company is now owned by St. Piran Services Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Saint Piran. The effect of the reorganization on the shareholders' funds of the Group at 31st March, 1977 (before allowing for the costs and expenses payable by the Company as detailed under Statutory and General Information (6.7), or for trading or other items since 31st March, 1977) is as follows:

6. STATUTORY and General Information

6.1 SHARE CAPITAL

1. The Company was incorporated in England on 18th July, 1905 and its registered number is 288550. On 28th November 1976 the authorized share capital of the Company was £250,000 divided into 500,000 ordinary shares of 25p each and 50,000 preference shares of 50p each, of which 463,000 ordinary shares and 6,896 preference shares were in issue.

2. On 22nd September, 1977, the 800,000 preference shares of 25p each were consolidated and converted into 400,000 ordinary shares of 25p each.

The sum of £13, being part of the amount standing to the credit of the reserves of the Company, was paid up in full in 52 new ordinary shares of 25p each, which were allotted, credited as fully paid, to Saint Piran Limited ("Saint Piran").

3. The share capital of 1,000,000 ordinary shares of 25p each was consolidated into 500,000 ordinary shares of 25p each and then sub-divided into 2,500,000 ordinary shares of 10p each.

The authorized share capital of the Company was increased from £250,000 to £2,000,000 divided into 2,000,000 ordinary shares of 10p each.

4. On 28th September, 1977, the Company paid a dividend of £5,200,000 to Saint Piran.

5. On 27th September, 1977, the Company, thereby satisfying the terms of its agreement with Saint Piran, repaid a sum of £1,200,000 to the Company, Great Western Ores ("the Group") and Saint Piran and its other wholly owned subsidiaries.

6. On 28th September, 1977, St. Piran Services Limited ("Services"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Saint Piran, issued 1,294,788 shares of 10p each for £3,700,000 in cash, which the Company applied in repaying borrowings.

7. On 28th September, 1977, the sum of £105,263,20 being part of the amount standing to the credit of the share Premium Account of the Company, was capitalized and applied in paying up in full 11,082,682 shares of 10p each for £3,600,000 of new share capital, the amount of which was to be paid in full in 10 years from the date of issue.

8.2 SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

The Company has one wholly owned subsidiary, Great Western Ores, which is a private company, incorporated in England on 23rd March, 191

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Sun shines on Pontin's

The accounts for the year to last March from the largest independent holiday camp group, Pontin's, puts the latest venture into sun heating firmly in the shade.

It is known that the group has a patented solar panel which last November it was about to mass produce at a new factory in Cornwall. Such panels were already used, so the annual meeting a year ago was told, to hear the Barton Hall camp

Then in May this year Pontin's reported the acquisition of the 49 per cent of Solar Apparatus and Equipment (as well as Spencehead) not already owned.

Shareholders will probably not bother about the sun or the lack of it as long as Sir Fred keeps his campers at home and abroad perfectly happy. He can hardly be wrong in writing: "all the present indications are that the group will enjoy another very successful season

APV plus Hall equals £7.6m

APV Holdings, who recently bought Hall Thermontek, reports a rise in pre-tax profits from £5.5m to £7.6m. Hall Thermontek, who was not part of APV last year, made a contribution of £1.2m pre-tax.

This was before deducting the interest amounting to £31,000 on the convertible unsecured loan stock issued as part of the buying price.

Turnover of this Crawley-based group which is a holding company for processing and heat-treater equipment, rose from £58.5m to £98.6m in the six months to June 30. Earnings a share are 24.7p against 21.6p and the directors have declared an interim dividend of 6.2p gross compared with 5.4p. It is also proposed to make a scrip issue on the basis of one-for-one.

In 1976, turnover of APV climbed from £98.5m to £137.4m and pre-tax profits rose from £9.1m to a record £12.6m.

Back in April, Mr P. Seligman, the then chairman, said that market recovery with a few exceptions remained uncertain, but there was a modest recovery in some countries and certain industries.

Mr H. Benson, who has recently been appointed chairman, says the group was expecting to achieve higher invoiced sales and profits for the second half but is suffering from a few exceptions remained uncertain, but there was a modest recovery in some countries and certain industries.

"That the action of the directors of the corporation in transferring an amount of US\$2 million from the surety premium account to meet the detailed article on an extraordinary item be hereby approved."

A member entreated to attend and to appoint another member as his proxy to attend and, on a poll, to vote in his stead.

By Order of the Board
D. F. Billie,
Secretary.

London Office:
40 Hobson Viaduct EC1P 1AJ
Registered Office:
Salvadore Building, Pitts Bay Road,
Pembroke, Bermuda.
Post Address:
P.O. Box 650, Hamilton 5, Bermuda.
29th September, 1977.

NORTH EAST COAST
SHIPREPAIRERS
LIMITED650,000 6½% Cumulative
Preference Shares
of £1 each

At a Board Meeting held on 6th September, 1977 it was resolved that the preference dividend which would otherwise become payable at 30th September, 1977 on 650,000 6½% Cum. Pref. Shares, should not be paid.

This decision was reached having regard to the adverse trading conditions experienced by the Company.

39th September, 1977
B. WRIGHT
Company Secretary

MUCH Nightingale & Co. Limited
62-65 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 5EP Tel: 01 638 5657
The Over-the-Counter Market

High	Low	Company	Last	Price	Gross	Div.	Y4	P.E.
43	27	Airsprings Ord.	42	—	4.2	10.0	7.8	
148	100	Airsprings 18½% CULS	148	—	18.4	12.5		
39	25	Armitage & Rhodes	36	—	3.3	9.1	15.3	
142	105	Bardon Hill	136	—	12.0	8.8	9.3	
165	95	Deborah Ord.	165	—	10.3	6.2	6.5	
170	104	Deborah 17½% CULS	170	—	17.5	10.2	7.5	
138	120	Frederick Parker	135	—	11.5	8.5	6.5	
115	45	Henry Sykes	115	+2	2.4	2.0	11.0	
58	36	Jackson Group	57	—	5.0	8.7	6.7	
100	55	James Burrough	100	—	6.0	6.1	9.0	
304	188	Robert Jenkins	304	—	27.0	8.8	5.1	
24	8	Twilock Ord.	12	—	—	—	—	
76	57	Twilock 12½% ULS	76	+2	12.0	15.7	—	
65	51	Twilock Holdings	64	—	7.0	10.3	7.9	
63	65	Walter Alexander	83	—	6.4	7.7	6.1	

Interim Report

FPA CONSTRUCTION
GROUP LIMITED

INTERIM STATEMENT
The Directors announce that the unaudited results of the Group for the six months ended 30th June 1977, are as follows:

Year audited to 31st December 1976	6 months unaudited to 30th June 1977	6 months unaudited to 30th June 1976
£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
23,624 TURNOVER	11,698	12,696
415 GROUP PROFITS BEFORE TAX	197	207
227 TAXATION	112	113
178 GROUP PROFITS AFTER TAX	85	88
83 DIVIDENDS	40	40

MAIN POINTS FROM THE STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN,
MR. B. J. WARD.

* Group has maintained its recovery.

* Group is reasonably well placed to take advantage of any improvement in the industry.

* Contracting Division has a substantial outstanding order book.

* Reduction of borrowings in the order of £700,000.

* Strengthened financial position.

Dividend hope at new look PMA

Hopes are high at PMA Holdings that this furniture group will return to dividends this year. Mr. Malcolm Meredith chairman, joined the group with a new management team in February, 1976, and he has since brought the group from a loss of £61,000 for 10 months trading to March 31, 1976, to a profit of £62,000 the following year.

The first quarter of the current year has seen the worst of the slump for the furniture trade, but PMA did better than a year earlier.

Given that the industry is past the worst, "it is possible" that PMA will beat its record pre-tax profit for the full year. The previous best was achieved six years ago. The board hopes to pay a small dividend.

Since the year end in March the group's shake-up has continued with the sale of Lloyds Packing Warehouses for £40,000. The group then bought up two fibreglass companies to create an important contract furniture unit.

Bumper year seen at F. H. Tomkins

Mr Gerald German, Chairman of engineers F. H. Tomkins, told the Annual Meeting that the group is expanding its sales in spite of acute competition in every activity and that profit margins are being squeezed.

However, he is confident that profits for the 6 months will show a satisfactory improvement over the record £52,000 made in the same period last year. He sees no reason why this trend should not be maintained for the rest of the year.

The group nearly exceeded £1.5m pre-tax in the year just past and he will be "extremely disappointed" if the group does not break through this barrier this year.

Hoskins & Horton up 41 pc but trade bad

The works at Hoskins & Horton, the Birmingham-based civil engineering, hospital equipment maker and builder, had little to do in the second quarter of this year. The recession has continued into the third

quarter but now the signs are for "useful activity" for what is left of the year.

Including an exceptional item of £69,000 from the sale of land, pre-tax profits went up 41 per cent to £372,500 in the six months to June 30. Turnover rose 3.4 per cent to £3.8m.

Net profits were £182,000, and for the full year the board thinks that profits may be lower than the 1976 record of £339,000, but they will "come favourably" with earlier years.

Moran Tea rejects Buxa-Dooars bid

The shares of Moran Tea jumped 125p yesterday on news of a bid from Buxa-Dooars Tea. The offer is £4 a share and the shares went to £4.10 each. The bid values Moran at £1.4m.

The Moran board is not prepared to recommend this offer and advised shareholders to take no action on any documents they may receive.

At the start of this year John Sissons, the Moran secretary and agent, had a stake of over 21 per cent in the group. Other big holders were Dunstan Trust Nominees with 12.86 per cent, and Mr and Mrs G. P. Theobald, who had 11.7 per cent.

Wadham Stringer in film expansion

For a total turnover of about £1.1m Wadham Stringer and the Skellys Group have agreed the sale to Wadham of Skellys (Merseyside).

This acquisition is important for Wadham because it extends its geographical coverage into the North-west and also introduces a Ford main dealership for the first time.

Skellys intends to use the money from the sale to concentrate its investment in its Scottish interests where they are Ford and Vauxhall main dealers.

Dispute slows down

Laurence Scott
Mr P. M. Tapscott, chairman of the Laurence Scott electrical machinery and control

gears group, told the annual meeting that the board will continue to press ahead with plans for modernization.

Business in general continues to be difficult with orders hard to come by, although the company's plans have "reasonable leads" for some distance ahead. In view of the extended withdrawal of a small number of employees which led to extensive lay-offs from the large motor works in Norwich during April and May, planned growth of profits for the current financial year "must be deferred to the second half".

A new integrated sheet metal plant, part of a £3m capital investment programme, is to be opened on November 24.

Good response to ICL share scheme

The first offer to employees of ICL of share options under the new savings-related option scheme was well.

One million ordinary shares were allocated to the first offer, made on August 25 at 201p a share. The option price was 90 per cent of the market value of the shares, or £1.05 a share.

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£6,000 plus Appointments

CANADIAN AEROSPACE...

Opportunities in Engineering and Operations Management

A Canadian Leader in Aerospace Engineering and Fabrication, offers exciting and challenging opportunities to seasoned professionals. High technology Unmanned Airborne Surveillance Systems, and an advanced business jet are just some of the programs providing long term career possibilities with this company. Here are some of the key positions that are immediately available:

ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

- Section Chief Avionics (Aircraft)
- Section Chief Systems Design and Integration (Surveillance)

DESIGN ENGINEERING

- Senior Avionics Designers
- Senior Aircraft Structural Designers
- Senior Mechanical-Hydraulic Systems Designers

SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

- Senior Systems Analysts
- Senior Reliability Analysts
- Standards Engineer
- Engineering Writers

MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING

- Senior Tool Designers
- N/C Programmers (5 axis)
- Senior Assembly and Installation Planners
- Composite Materials Analysis
- CAD/CAM

OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

- Director, Final Assembly
- Manager, Assembly
- Manager, Pre-flight
- Manager, Sheet Metal and Plastics

If you are interested in finding out more about these aerospace opportunities, send your resume to:
Canadair Ltd.,
Box 2602 J, The Times

canadair

Research & Technology Committee Secretary

Following a recent internal promotion, the Confederation of British Industry invites applications for a senior administrative post in its Education Training and Technology Directorate.

The person appointed would be responsible for much of the CBI's work in industrial research and technology. This includes both policy matters, prepared by the Research and Technology Committee, of which the successful candidate will be Secretary, and practical questions arising in the day to day running of research and development in industry. Subjects recently dealt with include technology and competitiveness, industry-university relations in research matters, and the role of government in industrial research and development.

Applicants should have a scientific, engineering or technological background and some experience of industrial research and development. A fluent pen and the ability to deal with people in industrial research, Government and the Universities at a senior level are essential.



Salary will be negotiable, according to age and experience, from £5,500 per annum. Please write for application forms to Jane Hopkinson CBI, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1H 9LP. Telephone no. 01-930 6711.

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF MERCHANT TAYLORS

The Company invites applications for a new post of Deputy Clerk to be filled early in 1978. This officer will rank as second in seniority to the Clerk and will act for him in his absence from duty. Although succession to the clerksip will not be automatic on the retirement of the present incumbent in 1980, the Deputy Clerk will clearly be a contender for the appointment.

Principal duties will comprise general administration of properties, trusts and charities, preparing agenda and minutes, correspondence, ceremonial responsibility for running the Hall and its staff. A knowledge of law or accountancy would be an advantage. The successful candidate is likely to be aged around 40 to 45 and preferably married.

The starting salary, which is pensionable, will be in the region of £8,000 pa.

Application forms may be obtained from the Clerk, 30 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8AY.

An experienced Bank Manager for Oman

An experienced Arabic speaking commercial banker required to be Manager of the main corporate branch of expanding local bank in Sultanate of Oman. Free furnished accommodation, car and other benefits. Applications will be treated in strict confidence.

Apply to Box No. 2477 J, The Times.

£6,000 as Social Secretary

to the Director-General of a well established Charity in W.1.

You will be a graduate with a mature and pleasant personality. Self-motivated, assured, an able typist, with the ability to communicate at all levels in both written and verbal form.

A competent organiser who will enjoy arranging functions and will feel confident in liaising with Educational bodies throughout the U.K. Those with this profile should send a Curriculum Vitae to:

Miss Patricia Ritchie,
6 Symons Street, London SW3 2TJ.
Tel: 01-730 0137.

EXECUTIVE PRESELECTORS

General Manager

INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF DISTILLERS
INVITE APPLICATIONS FOR THE POST OF
GENERAL MANAGER FOR A DISTILLERY
IN THE WEST INDIES

Applicants should be under 40 years of age and fully experienced in distillery operations and in blending and bottling techniques. The successful candidate will, in addition, have experience in the control of business units, the ability to manage a sales and distribution of products. An initial appointment of up to two years is envisaged with other opportunities within the Group thereafter.

Salary, leave and terms of service will be fully commensurate with experience.

Applicants are invited to apply to
Box 2661 J, The Times

and a curriculum vitae should be enclosed.

Head of Education and Training

c. £8,500

The Trustee Savings Banks organisation is regionally and federally structured, with nineteen banks, a Central Board and specialist subsidiary companies. Their role is currently being widened to give a full personal banking service to their customers and as a consequence, their training and educational programmes covering around 18,000 staff are being greatly expanded.

Each Bank has its own training department and there is also a residential college at Solihull which provides management training. The Central Board proposes to set up an Education and Training Division to co-ordinate the work of the Banks' training departments. This Division will provide advisory and support services; develop the activities of the TSB College; mount specialist courses and seminars; liaise with outside organisations; undertake educational research and any other necessary strategic activities.

The new Head of Division will be joining at a pioneering stage and will make a major personal contribution in shaping the new division. The post is London based but will involve some travelling and occasional short absences from home.

Starting salary will be around £8,500 plus Stage Two supplement depending on qualifications and experience. Benefits include non-contributory pension, house mortgage subsidy and a London allowance. Re-location expenses will be paid where appropriate.

Applications are invited particularly from graduates (men and women) with at least five years relevant experience in commerce/industrial training and education. This vacancy has been advertised internally. The successful applicant will have to pass a medical examination.

Applications, giving the names of two referees, (one of whom must be the applicant's most recent employer) should be sent marked "Confidential" to:

Head of Personnel Division (HET),
Trustee Savings Banks Central Board,
PO Box 99, 3 Grosvenor Street,
London, EC1P 3BX.

No references will be taken up before an offer of employment is made.

Closing date for applications will be 17th Oct. 1977.

TSB

For your
next
move...

£6,000 plus
Appointments

Every
FRIDAY

For details
or to book
your
advertisement
ring

01-278 9161

or

Manchester
061-834 1234

COMMISSION FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

DIRECTOR, LEGAL & GENERAL SERVICES

The Commission for Racial Equality invites applications for the post of Director, Legal & General Services to be based in its headquarters office in London.

The main functions of the Commission, which has been set up under the Race Relations Act 1976, include working towards the elimination of racial discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity and good relations between persons of different racial groups. It has a staff complement of over 200 and operates in three divisions, each headed by a Director.

The Legal and General Services Division consists of the Legal, Finance, Information, Research Sections and the Training and Personnel Services. It has a total staff complement of 85.

The Director of the Division will be responsible to the Chief Executive for the work of the Division. He will have special responsibility for advising the Commission on all the legal matters related to the functions and powers of the Commission under the Race Relations Act 1976.

Preference will be given to candidates with sound knowledge and experience of the law, and administration including personnel management.

Salary: £8,650 rising to £11,000 p.a. plus a supplement of £208.80 and London Weighting allowance of £485 p.a. Please write for an application form and further particulars to the Principal, Management Services, The Commission for Racial Equality, Ref. LG2/TT, Elliot House, 10/12 Allington Street, London, S.W.1, enclosing a large self-addressed envelope. Completed application forms should be returned not later than 17 October.

General Management

£12,000 Basic + Substantial Bonus + Usual benefits

A British company with European operations seeks a General Manager/ess to be totally responsible to the Board for the profitable management and development of its U.K. operation, located in London.

The company markets consumer goods, frequently backed with major T.V. promotions.

The person sought will be in the age range early thirties to early forties and possess a strong background in consumer goods sales and marketing management. Additionally the candidate will possess a proven track record in product development through to successful market exploitation and should be able to demonstrate the strength of character necessary to take over and develop an existing operation.

Please write with career details in confidence to the consultants handling the appointment to

Box 2601 J, The Times.

County Valuer and Estates Officer

(£9,141 x £294 (3)-£10,023 + Supplements)

The above post will become vacant on 30 April, 1978, on the retirement of the present Chief Officer, J. T. Bradley, A.R.I.C.S. A person is sought who will be professionally qualified and have the experience and ability to manage the valuation and estates department. Northamptonshire, with four new and expanding towns, is one of the most rapidly growing authorities in the country.

Application forms and further details are available from the Personnel Officer, County Hall, Northampton, NN1 1DN and should be returned to the Chief Executive to arrive by 21 October 1977.

**Northamptonshire
Valuation & Estates Department**

Middle East Appointments

Senior Petroleum Engineer Iran

The National Iranian Oil Company requires a Senior Petroleum Engineer to be Manager of Petroleum Production.

This position is based in Tehran but the person appointed will travel to oil and gas fields and project sites throughout Iran. The work involves organising and directing a new production department for the supervision of several new and large gas and oil production operations, including production liquid recovery, sweetening, compression plants and their commissioning. Applicants must hold a degree in Chemical, Petroleum or Mechanical Engineering from a recognised university and have at least 15 years' experience in oil production, maintenance, planning, management of oil and gas field operations and liquid recovery. An excellent knowledge of written and spoken English is essential. In addition, applicants must have proven ability to be willing to train existing and new employees by setting up training courses and establishing engineering and operating manuals in conjunction with the Training Department.

The appointment will be for a minimum of two years and may be extended for several years. An attractive salary and fringe benefits are offered, including transportation of family and annual home leave.



Please apply as soon as possible to:
Mr A. Etemadi,
Administration Manager,
The National Iranian Oil Co.,
Graveline House,
132-135 Sloane Street,
London S.W.1.

LA CREME DE LA CREME

NON-SECRETARIAL

SKI SUPERTRAVEL

RECEPTIONIST

SCHUMI HAIR STUDIO

TELEVISION

ESTATE AGENTS

RECEPTIONIST

SECRETARY

####

Stepping Stones—Non-Secretarial—Secretarial—Temporary & Part Time Vacancies

SECRETARIAL

PARTNER'S SECRETARY

(24-35)

International firm of Chartered Accountants situated next to London Bridge station has an immediate vacancy for a secretary to work for a busy Partner. The successful applicant should have a good educational background and excellent secretarial skills including shorthand. Experience of working at senior level is essential.

In return we offer excellent working conditions including regular salary reviews, subsidised restaurant and bar, contributory pension scheme, swimming pool and squash courts on premises and a Christmas bonus. For further details please telephone Mrs Irene Bryant, 01-407 6162, ext. 2294.

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY
to Finance Director

Required by large subsidiary of major textile group based in London, Age 21+. Modern offices. Hours 8.45 am-4.45 pm. Subsidised restaurant. Staff shop, discount on fabrics and free car parking. Excellent salary. Must have shorthand.

Apply to Personnel Dept
EXQUISITE FABRICS LTD
The Mincing Lane, EC3V
Telephone: 380 3333

Sales
Co-ordinator

required to give total support to our sales team of 100 and 200 outlets. Many buy job involving telephone client liaison, induction sales courses, and organising company meetings. Some supervision of junior staff. An exciting opportunity for a person with a good educational background. Salary approx. £1,750 p.a.

Applicants should apply to:
Company Secretary
Forcon International Ltd,
25 Old Burlington St,
London W1X 1LE.

DEVON

Electrical engineer
SECRETARY PA

The post would be interesting to a person with a good educational background and a desire for a challenging and responsible short-term appointment. Good salary and excellent prospects. Salary £1,750 p.a.

Why not come and find out more. We welcome initial visits: so ring me, Mrs. Roxanne Sutton, Personnel Officer, 01-363 8033, Ext. 7402.

LOWMAN MANUFACTURING
The Island, Cowman Green,
Exeter, Devon

BILINGUAL DIRECTOR'S
SECRETARY PA

Stevens in Surrey are looking for a mature person to join their English speaking management team to provide a comprehensive service to their top class clients who are engaged in previous experience of working in a business environment. In our modern working conditions and a top negotiator makes this an exciting opportunity. Stevens are based in the Surrey area, 10 miles from London. Tel 0344 6771.

EXTOVERT TYPE FULL
OF FLAIR, TO £3,800

Partner at Sarahs firm of chartered accountants, young Secretary to whom he can give full responsibility of interesting tasks and responsibilities. With a man who needs him, with a good salary. Tel 01-520 1851.

SECRETARY TO small surveyors in Croydon. Good salary, good working conditions, good prospects. Tel 01-686 0000 per annum. Tel 01-686 0000.

SECRETARY—Business Secretary for American Co. £5,000 plus

and 10% comm. Tel 01-402 5000.

SECRETARY to Managing Director £3,000. Well established firm. Good prospects. Tel 01-520 1851.

SECRETARY with small U.K. subsidiary with a good U.K. background. Own car, private office, telephone, etc. Tel 01-520 1851.

SECRETARY FOR SECRETARIES—See our ads. Croydon

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS—See our ads. Croydon

ASMSA Agency. Tel 01-754 0322.

YOUNG SECRETARY
with Initiative

Good character, bright, energetic, with a desire to learn. Small team in our office which deals with a wide range of government work. Presently involved in preparing for the 1978 Commonwealth Games. Salary £1,000 plus. Apply to: Mrs. Barbara Baker, 2029 5039. Tel 01-403 8070 for more details and interview.

The Middlesex Hospital
London, W1

MEDICAL SECRETARY
ANAESTHETICS

Salary £2,988 to £3,524 p.a.

We have a vacancy for an experienced and well educated Medical Secretary to work in the Anaesthetics Department of this famous London Teaching Hospital.

Good shorthand and typing skills are essential. Experience for this job, together with a mature and practical outlook.

Why not come and find out more. We welcome initial visits: so ring me, Mrs. Roxanne Sutton, Personnel Officer, 01-363 8033, Ext. 7402.

GG

WINE MERCHANTS

Private wine and spirit merchants with famous non-farm authors giving coverage for publications and publications. We are looking for a small team with shorthand, who will join in our activities. Salary negotiable, but not less than £3,400.

Telephone: Richard Pearce
01-520 5851.

HOW MUCH
ARE YOU WORTH?

Would you like to control your personal development and your performance and earn a management position as your senior with our international company? You will have plenty of initiative and enjoy a challenge. Call me for more details. Tel 01-520 1851. BRAKE PERSONNEL, 203 READING ROAD, MIDDE

SECRETARY TO Financial Director
of a new company. £12,000

plus 10% comm. Tel 01-402 5000.

EXPORT—Experienced Sec. £1,200.00 plus 10% comm. major co. Pickering. £1,500 plus 10% comm. Pickering. £1,100 plus 10% comm. Pickering. £1,000 plus 10% comm. Tel 01-402 5000.

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